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# VILLA

v BOLTON WANDERERS  
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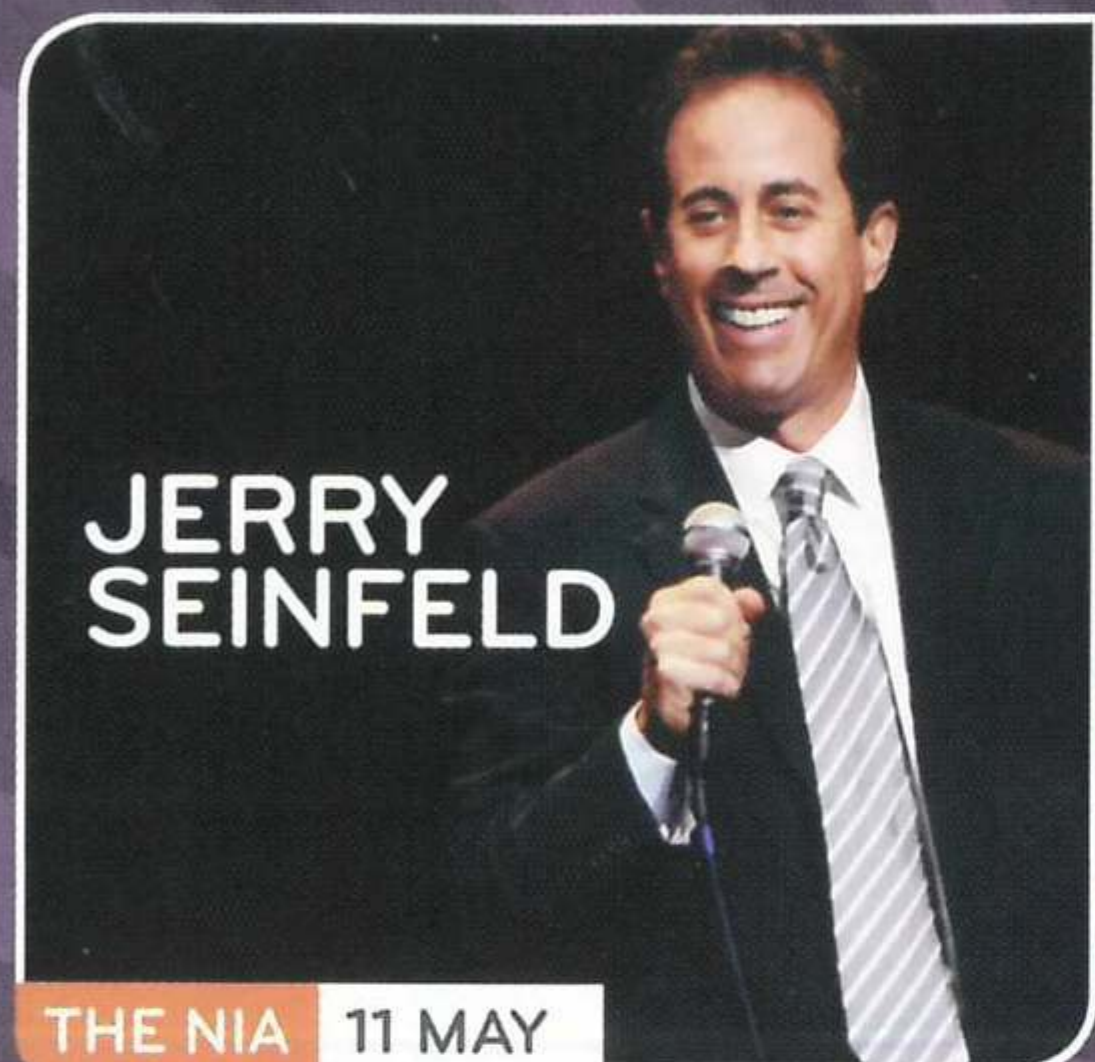


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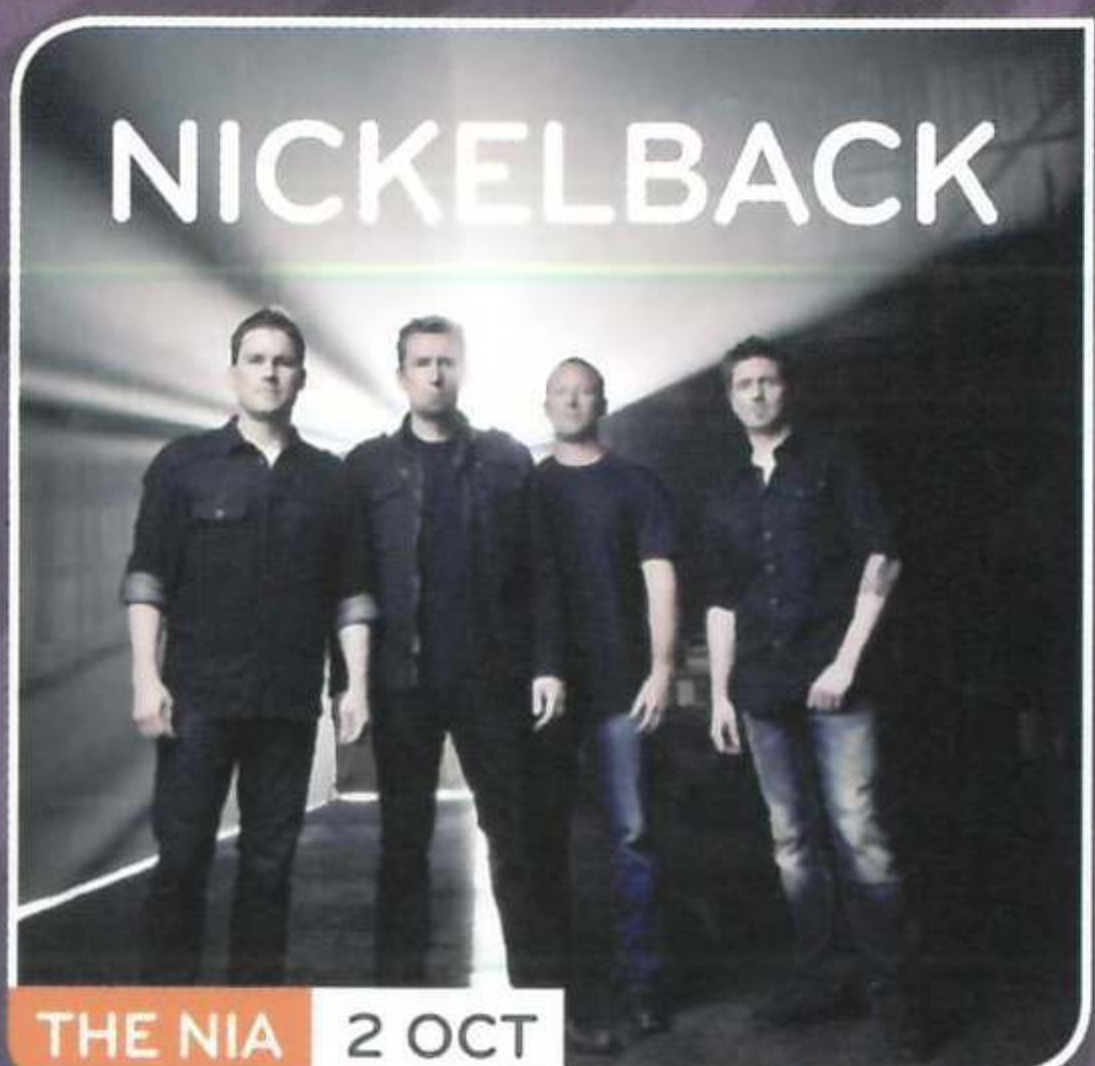
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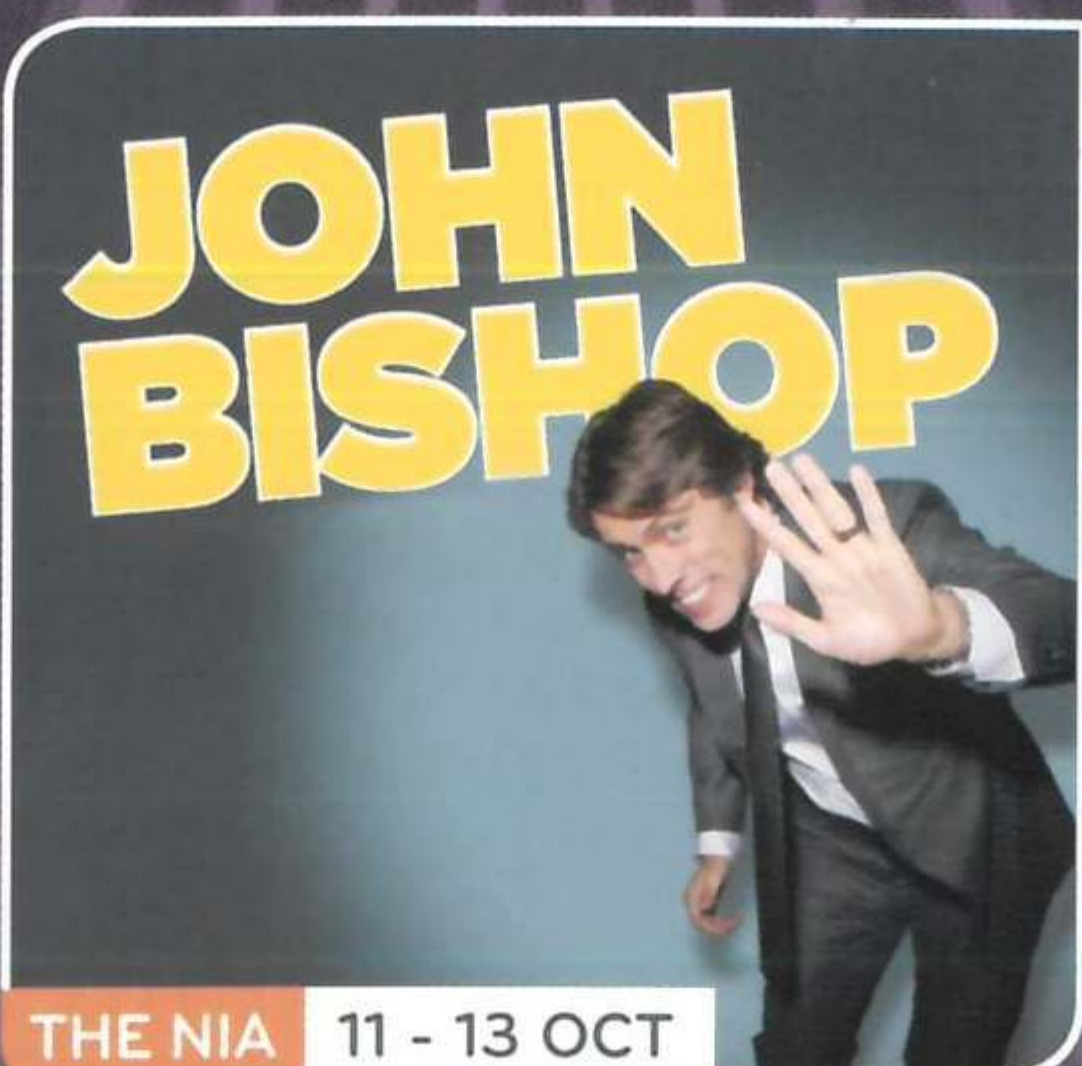


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# A CRUCIAL CLASH

**Villa v Bolton Wanderers has been the subject of three postponements before the teams come face to face in Barclays Premier League action tonight, but the game's importance is by no means diminished by that.**

Originally scheduled for Saturday 17th March, the game was initially put back 25 hours for live TV coverage and then called off again after the Trotters were involved in the FA Cup that weekend.

The events of their quarter-final against Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane reverberated around the world as Fabrice Muamba suffered a cardiac arrest which forced the abandonment of the game.

With the England under-21 international in a critical condition, we had no hesitation in agreeing to

Bolton's request for the re-arranged game here on Tuesday 20th March to be postponed again.

In the meantime, of course, we have experienced our own personal trauma following Stiliyan Petrov's diagnosis with leukaemia, which will make tonight a particularly poignant occasion.

Both Fabrice and Stiliyan, who scored one of our goals in a 2-1 win at the Reebok Stadium in December, will be very much in the thoughts of every supporter ahead of kick-off this evening.

For the duration of the 90 minutes, though, both teams will have other important matters on their minds.

The clubs' respective league positions are almost identical to what they were when the game was called off last month

but with only a few games remaining – four for Villa, five for Bolton – both teams are aware of the need for points to secure continued tenancy in the top flight.

The current situation suggests Villa should be fine, as they sit five points above the relegation zone and six ahead of the Trotters.

But victory for Owen Coyle's side would reduce the latter gap to just three – with the Lancashire club having a match in hand.

That potentially nerve-racking scenario makes the need for a good result all the more important, and they will be heartened by their Carling Cup win here last September. Alex McLeish and his players will be doing everything in their power to avoid a repeat.

## NEXT UP AT VILLA PARK

After tonight's match there's just one more Barclays Premier League game at Villa Park, and it should be a cracker. The visit of Tottenham Hotspur invariably attracts a big crowd and an attractive contest and we expect nothing different when Spurs come here on Sunday 6th May (2.00pm). In the meantime, please note that our allocation is sold out for next Saturday's derby against Albion at The Hawthorns.



# THE LAST TIME...

Bolton's last visit to Villa Park coincided with Kevin MacDonald's last match of his brief reign as caretaker manager following Martin O'Neill's departure at the start of last season.

MacDonald was in charge for seven matches, the last two of them while the newly-appointed Gerard Houllier negotiated his release from the French Football Federation.

In the event, both men were at Villa Park for the Bolton game – MacDonald in the dug-out and Houllier watching from the stand – although their dual presence wasn't enough to inspire a Villa victory.

The game started well enough from a claret and blue perspective. Villa dominated the opening 20 minutes or so and deservedly led when Ashley Young curled a 25-yard free-kick around the visitors' defensive wall and past keeper Adam Bogdan.



But the Trotters, who had conceded 13 goals on their three previous visits, were in no mood to let the floodgates open yet again.

Gradually battling their way back into the contest, Owen Coyle's side equalised when Stuart Holden crossed to the far post, Martin Petrov headed down and Kevin Davies controlled the ball before firing into the roof of the net.

Although Villa were on top for long periods of the second half, Bolton stood firm, and even threatened to grab a winner in the closing stages.

## VILLA | BOLTON |

**SATURDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2010 ATTENDANCE: 34,655**

**SCORER:** A YOUNG

**VILLA:** FRIEDEL; L YOUNG, DUNNE (CUELLAR, HT), COLLINS, WARNOCK; ALBRIGHTON, IRELAND (CAREW, 72), S PETROV, DOWNING; A YOUNG; AGBONLAHOR.

**SCORER:** K DAVIES

**BOLTON:** BOGDAN; STEINSSON, KNIGHT, O'BRIEN (RICKETTS, 18), ROBINSON; M PETROV (TAYLOR, 83), MUAMBA (M DAVIES, 69), HOLDEN, LEE, ELMANDER; K DAVIES.

## CLUB CONNECTIONS

He now plays for Chelsea and could well be heading to Poland and Ukraine for this summer's European Championship finals. But Gary Cahill will always be fondly remembered by both Villa and Bolton.

Even when he was on the brink of moving to Stamford Bridge during the January transfer window, the 26-year-old central defender still managed to score the Trotters' winner in a crucial 2-1 success at Everton.

That was typical of the hard-working Yorkshireman, and it was one of 13 goals he scored during the course of 130 Premier League appearances for Bolton.

If that ratio is rather more impressive than the one he netted in 28 league games for Villa, though, his single strike in claret and blue was one to savour – a spectacular volley at the Holte End in a



3-1 Second City derby victory in 2006. Cahill, who graduated through Villa's Academy and reserve ranks, found his senior action limited at Villa Park by the presence of Olof Mellberg and Martin Laursen, and moved to Bolton during the January 2008 transfer window.

The other players to have made league appearances for both clubs are Tom Wilson, Walter Brown, Sam Greenhalgh, Tommy Barber, Tom Griffiths, John Gregory, Kevin Poole, Stuart Gray, Neil Cox, Bryan Small, Franz Carr, Gareth Farrelly, Sasa Curcic, Alan Thompson, Gavin McCann, Illoyd Samuel, Zat Knight and Nigel Reo-Coker.

Villa manager Jimmy Hogan, meanwhile, previously played for Bolton, and former Villa player Bruce Rioch was manager of Bolton from 1992 to 1995.

## CLUB OFFICIALS

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**MANAGER** Alex McLeish

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**RUNNERS-UP** 1888-89, 1902-03, 1907-08, 1910-11, 1912-13, 1913-14, 1930-31, 1932-33, 1989-90

**PREMIER LEAGUE RUNNERS-UP** 1992-93

**DIVISION TWO CHAMPIONS** 1937-38, 1959-60

**RUNNERS-UP** 1974-75, 1987-88

**DIVISION THREE CHAMPIONS** 1971-72

**FA CUP WINNERS** 1887, 1895, 1897, 1905, 1913, 1920, 1957

**RUNNERS-UP** 1892, 1924, 2000

**LEAGUE CUP WINNERS** 1961, 1975, 1977, 1994, 1996

**RUNNERS-UP** 1963, 1971, 2010

**FA YOUTH CUP WINNERS** 1972, 1980, 2002

## CLUB CONTACTS

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Aston Villa Media and ProgrammeMaster.



**PROGRAMME MASTER**

**EDITORIAL** Rob Bishop, Dan Harrison, Paul Brown

**ART EDITOR** Marc Miller

**PICTURE LIBRARY MANAGER** Nadine Lees

**HEAD OF PRODUCTION** Liam Curry

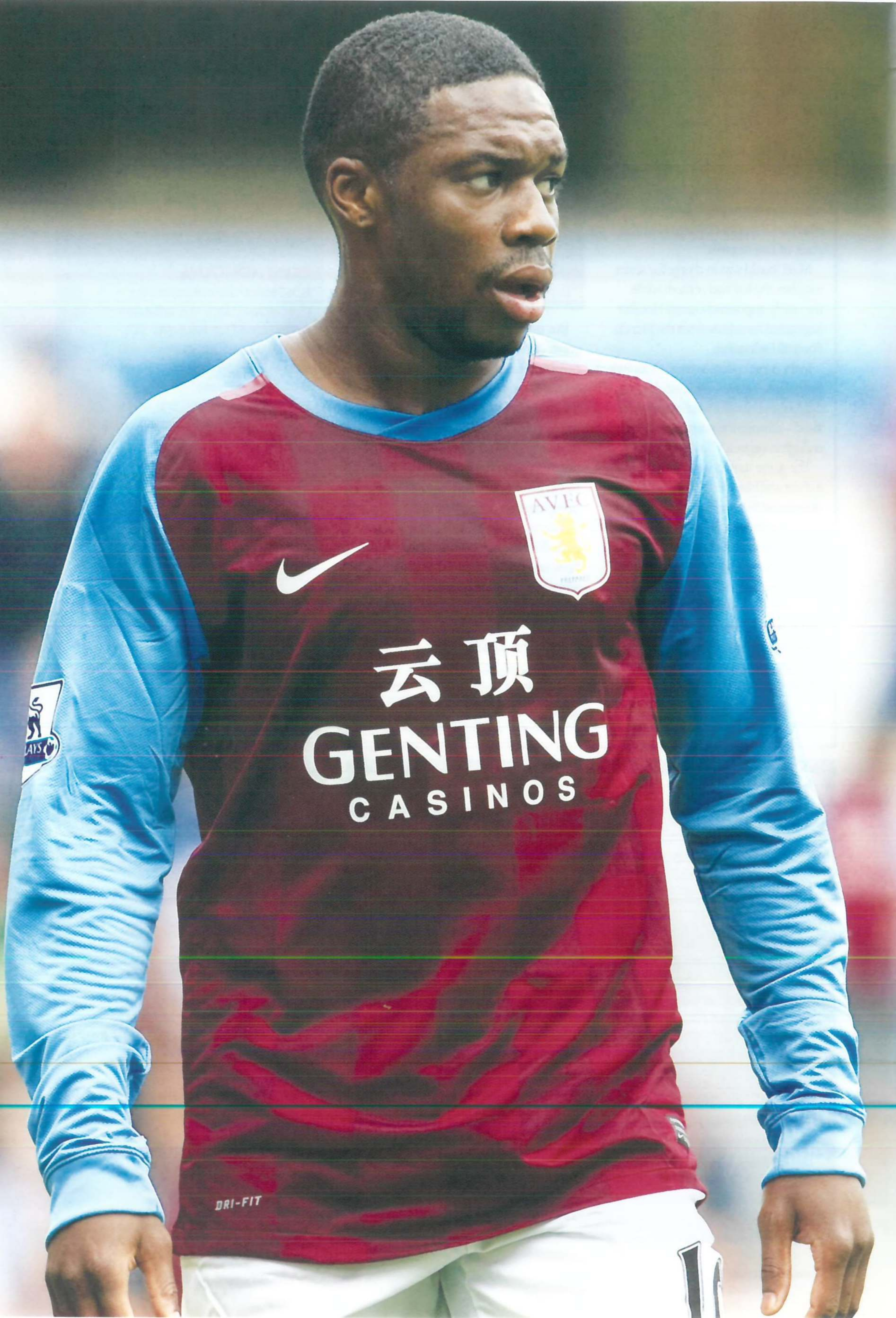
**PRINTED BY** hpmgroup 0191 300 6941

**PHOTOGRAPHY** Neville Williams/Aston Villa FC/Getty Images

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**PROGRAMME SUBSCRIPTIONS** 08700 202020





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# ALEX McLEISH

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY AND WELCOME TO VILLA PARK FOR OUR BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE GAME AGAINST BOLTON WANDERERS.

**A little over five weeks ago we found ourselves praying for Fabrice Muamba, that the Bolton midfield player would come through against the odds in his battle to survive cardiac arrest. Naturally and without hesitation, we agreed to Bolton's request to postpone our game and it is heart-warming and apt that we go into our re-arranged fixture having read Fabrice's inspiring words describing the miraculous recovery he has made.**

The courage he has shown on his incredible journey home and the brave battle being waged by our captain, Stiliyan Petrov, against acute leukaemia can help us all with perspective, but the business at hand and the imperatives of football will concentrate our entire minds tonight when we belatedly get this game played. We have to be fully focused on our objectives, individually and collectively as a team, and achieve what we need to do.

In terms of effort and commitment, we can't ask for anything more than what the players delivered on Saturday. Eric Lichaj and Chris Herd epitomised this attitude, demonstrating their commitment and power from start to finish. It is at times like these that the underlying character of individuals and of a team reveals itself and a fierce work ethic and desire are fundamental. These hallmarks will mean a great deal.

But the little ingredient that will



make all the difference is our quality in the last third of the pitch. We have to try to maximise the opportunities we create. We have to be clinical and demonstrate a ruthlessness that will propel us across the line. That level of professionalism will make all the difference. The challenge will always be there for the players who can make that difference, the wingers, the attacking midfield players, the strikers. These are the players on whom fans focus their highest expectations and that challenge for those players is constant.

We are very positive about tonight's game. It's a home game and our fans were excellent again at the weekend in their encouragement of the players. For our part, we tried to deliver a dynamic performance and, if not quite delivering with an end product, I thought we

couldn't give anything more in terms of our drive, our attitude and application. Very simply, we have to replicate that standard again. We have to keep believing that in doing so this will secure us the rewards we are striving for and we do believe this. We also believe we can make our home advantage count.

Welcome to Owen Coyle and to Bolton Wanderers. Owen was a great striker for me in my early managerial days at Motherwell. He has gone on to forge a successful career as a coach and manager and I wish him continued success – though not a whole lot tonight!

Every player in a Villa shirt will have to perform to his highest level in order for us to succeed in tonight's game. If the players show the same level of commitment that they have shown recently at Anfield and in our recent games at Villa Park against Stoke and Sunderland, we can earn the right to secure the desired result. We will also need a strong, positive Villa crowd behind us, supporting the team and giving the players every bit of encouragement. They will thrive on and be inspired by your support of them. Enjoy the game.





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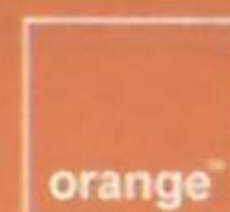
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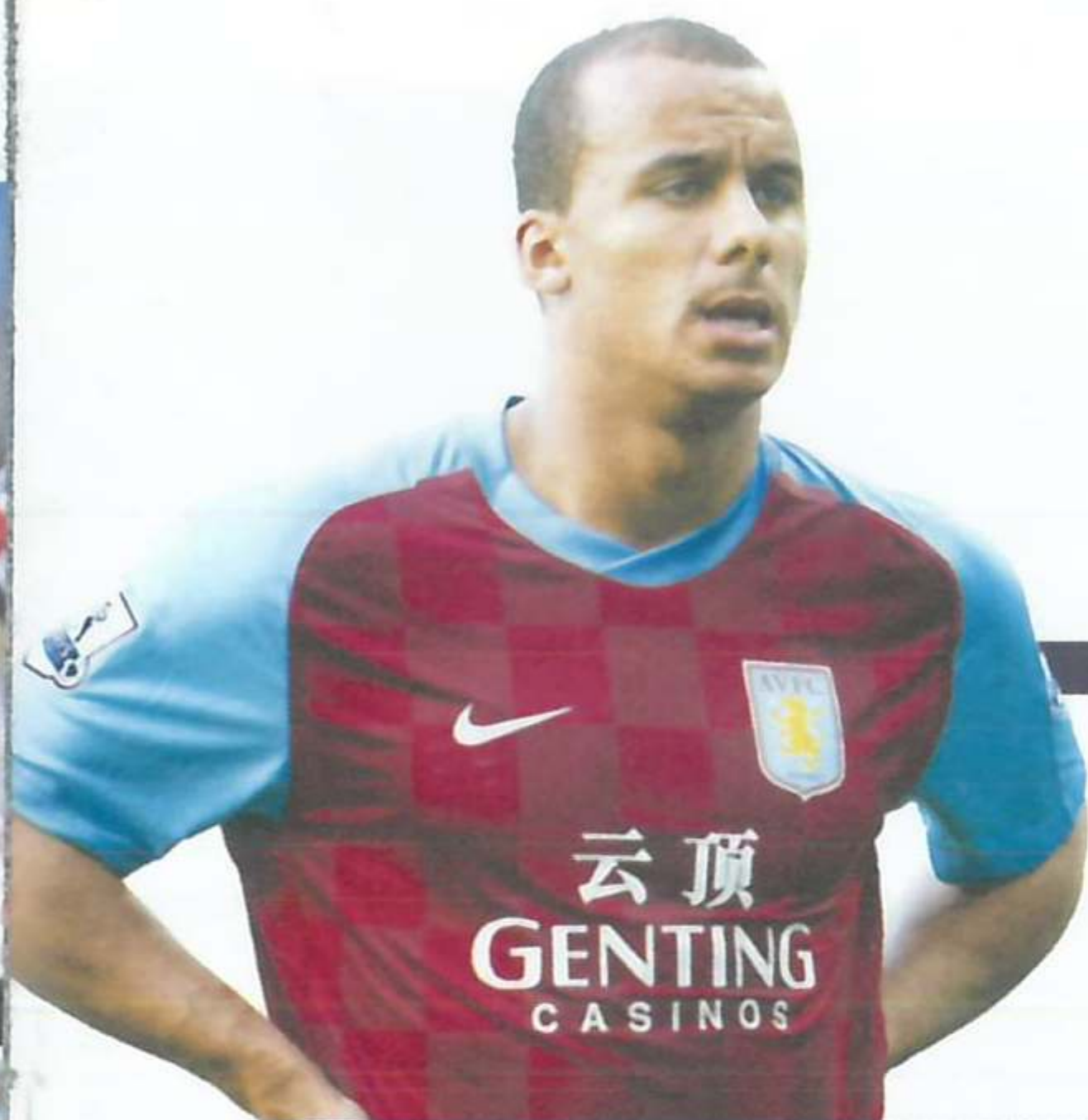
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## FROM THE DRESSING ROOM

None of us need reminding of the importance of tonight's game – and I'm just hoping I will have the chance to be involved in what is a genuine crunch clash.

While the rest of the lads were battling for a point against Sunderland on Saturday I spent most of the second half in the dressing room having ice put on my shoulder after I went up for a header and landed awkwardly.

As you can imagine, it's been very sore because there was a lot of bruising and I had to get my shoulder strapped up before leaving Villa Park.

I was also due to have a couple of injections over the past couple of days, and when this programme went to print yesterday I reckon my chances of playing against Bolton Wanderers were 50-50. You may be aware of a more up-to-date situation by now but at the time it was just a case of wait and see.

Regardless of whether I'm fit, though, this is a game we really need to win as we look to dispel any possibility of being dragged into the relegation zone.

Despite the fact the Sunderland game ended goalless, we were generally happy with the way we played. We created a lot of chances and could easily have been a couple of goals up inside the first five minutes. I also felt we showed a lot of spirit and fight against very difficult opponents.

It's obviously frustrating to have had so many draws this season but if we keep battling away I'm sure we will soon start turning those draws into wins, although we know it will be tough against a Bolton side whose need for points is more desperate than ours.

You only have to look at recent



**WE'RE NOT THINKING ABOUT OTHER RESULTS. THE ONES THAT MATTER ARE OUR OWN**

results to see that every team near the bottom of the table are fighting hard and getting some good results at this critical stage.

But we are not thinking too much about other results. The score-lines that really matter are our own, and all the lads are aware this is another big, big game.

I'm sure it will be a sentimental night, too. This game was called off last month after Bolton's Fabrice Muamba suffered a cardiac arrest, so everyone will be thinking about him, as well as Stiliyan Petrov's battle against leukaemia.

The way fans have applauded non-stop for 60 seconds at the 19th minute

of every game tells you just how popular Stan is and I can assure you that applause gives the team a lift. It's really encouraging to hear such a show of support for our absent captain.

After tonight's game we can look ahead to one of the big occasions of any season – the derby against West Bromwich Albion at The Hawthorns next Saturday.

Most Villa fans regard the Second City derby as the game that really matters in these parts, but clashes against Albion and Wolves are also games which capture the imagination.

There's no doubt the Baggies are a vastly-improved team this season and they have had some excellent results. But I remember scoring against them when we won 2-1 at The Hawthorns three seasons ago and I would love to get another goal next weekend. First, though, it's a case of getting my shoulder right.



**FF I KNOW  
WHAT A  
DIFFERENCE THE  
CROWD CAN  
MAKE JJ**



# STAN THE MAN

STAN COLLYMORE WRITES EXCLUSIVELY FOR VILLA FANS

**I've been a fairly frequent visitor to Villa Park in my role as a talkSPORT commentator over the past few seasons. But tonight I won't need a microphone to make myself heard.**

I'm vacating my seat in the press box to sit in the stand and cheer on the lads. Right now, we all need to get behind Villa and, as I don't have any radio commitments, I'm ready and willing to help make some noise.

I know what a difference the crowd can make. I vividly remember my first season as a Villa player. We had a very poor start, losing the first four games, but the fans really got behind us and were very much our 12th man, so much so that we ended up qualifying for Europe.

It's been a difficult season and lots of people have expressed opinions on why Villa are at the wrong end of the table. But that can wait until the summer when there will be plenty of time to reflect on how the season has gone.

All we should be thinking of for the time being is getting enough points to keep clear of the danger zone – and three at the expense of Bolton tonight would be a massive help.

There was a lot of disappointment that we didn't beat Sunderland on Saturday but it was still an important point that takes us in the right direction. Now I'm hoping to see the team go into tonight's game with a confident, positive approach.

It's all too easy to forget that anything can happen in the Barclays Premier League, and not even the top teams always get things all their own way.

I was at Old Trafford on Sunday and there were plenty of tired minds and tired legs in the Manchester United

side as they surrendered a 4-2 lead and were held to a draw by Everton.

Unless you concentrate for 90 minutes in this league, you are always likely to slip up.

**We're all hoping Gabby Agbonlahor will be fit for tonight after damaging his shoulder against Sunderland, and if it's humanly possible for him to make the starting XI, I'm sure he will.**



But if the acting captain is ruled out I reckon Andreas Weimann and Emile Heskey can still pose a threat to the Bolton defence.

I thought they linked up really well after Gabby was forced off injured. I've long been an admirer of Emile, and Andreas has really impressed me over the past few weeks.

He shows a lot of maturity for his age and if he carries on like this he is going to be a big, big player for Villa over the next few years. His goal against Stoke City on Easter Monday was sheer class.

**Next Saturday's derby at The Hawthorns promises to be a cracker and I reckon it will be even better if Villa win tonight.**

That would enable Alex McLeish's men to play with much more freedom against an Albion team who have done remarkably well this season.

The Baggies' manager Roy Hodgson has done an excellent job in securing safety with a few games to spare.

I reckon a win tonight will make Villa pretty much safe, too – and that should make for an entertaining contest on Saturday.





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## ON YOUR BIKES...

**Our final home game against Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday 6th May has been designated as Supporters' Cycle Day.**

With the weather now (hopefully) improving, we are encouraging Villa fans with bikes to cycle to Villa Park, where 100 suspended cycle racks are available next to the players' and directors' car park.

We're offering an incentive, too. Simply cycle to the game, padlock your bike and

produce your match ticket or season card to a staff member on duty near the cycle racks. You will be handed a raffle ticket entering you in a draw to win a Villa Park hospitality package for two next season.

Our picture shows partnerships executive Sean Lyon, who regularly cycles to work at Villa Park. Follow his example at the Spurs match and you could be a winner.

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Villa folk will again have the chance to remember loved ones who have died when the club host the third Celebration of Life at the Holte Suite on Friday 11th May (2.00pm).

The service will be taken by Rev Andy Jolley from Aston Parish Church and club chaplain Ken Baker.

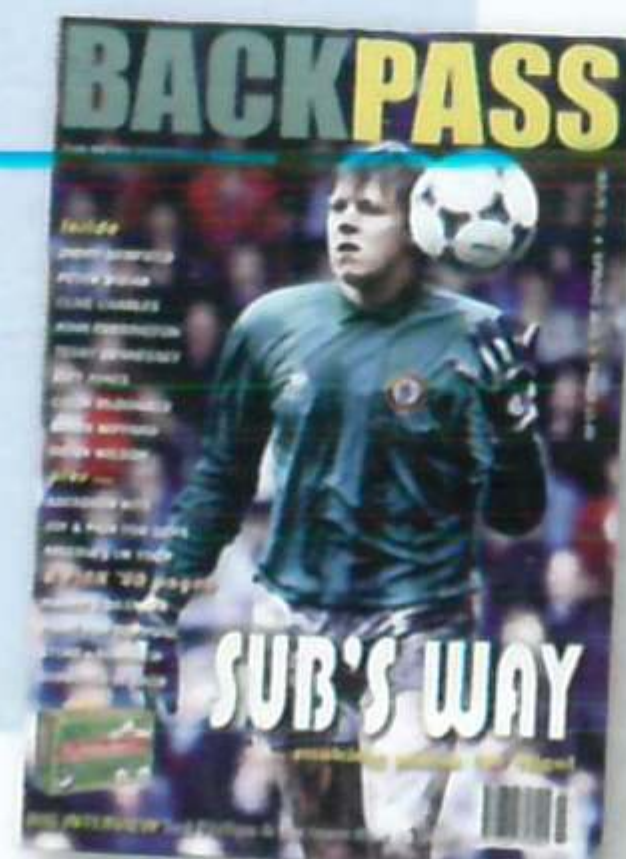
There will be tributes from guest speakers from Villa and our charity partner Acorns, together with an array of musical talent from the Birmingham Community Gospel Choir plus other musical contributors. Following the service there will be an informal reception and the chance to meet other guests, the chaplain and other representatives of the club and associated partners.

## ROTTERDAM RECALLED

As we approach the 30th anniversary of Villa's European Cup triumph, it's good to see the retro football magazine BACKPASS reflecting on our finest hour.

The Spring issue includes a double-page interview with goalkeeper Nigel Spink, who performed heroics in the 1-0 victory over Bayern Munich after going on as a substitute for the injured Jimmy Rimmer.

Another page is devoted to the Villa News & Record for Villa's final league game of the season against Swansea City, just five days before the final in Rotterdam.



## THE MAGIC OF MERSE

**Paul Merson was a great entertainer on the pitch – and he is proving to be equally entertaining in his new role as a Sky Sports pundit.**

We're sure the former Villa star will also delight his audience when he stars in a black-tie event, A Night with Paul Merson and Friends at The Belfry on Thursday 3rd May.



Gary Shaw, Andy Gray, Mark Walters, Dion Dublin, Gordon Cowans and Ian Taylor are also taking part in the event, which is hosted by TV personality Nick Hancock.

Tickets cost £50 each, while tables of 10 are also available. To book, or for more information, contact [lisa.smith@preparedpr.co.uk](mailto:lisa.smith@preparedpr.co.uk) or call 07933 431124.



# THE FULL SET



The essential target for many programme collectors is to compile full sets of home programmes – and we are now able to help Villa supporters do exactly that.

From the club's stocks of back issues we have compiled various sets of the Villa News & Record from the 1996-97 campaign through to 2009-10. Prices vary from £31 to £39 for each set of programmes.

To check availability, call Pam Bridgewater on 0121 327 2299 (extension 283) or email [pam.bridgewater@avfc.co.uk](mailto:pam.bridgewater@avfc.co.uk)

## LET'S MOVE FORWARD

Villa's chief executive Paul Faulkner and chief financial officer Robin Russell conducted a question and answer session at a Birmingham Forward event at Villa Park.

After introducing a short video of what the club do on and off the pitch Paul and Robin gave a fascinating insight into the Villa business model and how the organisation is run.

Also pictured is Birmingham Forward chief executive Peter Rees-Steer (second left) and AVTV presenter Jack Woodward, who compered the event.



## LAURA AT THE LIBRARY

You wouldn't normally expect Villa to be a hot topic at the library but it happened when author Trevor Fisher and club archivist Laura Brett presented the latest local history lecture at

the Birmingham Central Library theatre. Trevor spoke about Villa's origins to an appreciative audience, while Laura outlined her role in organising archive material at Villa Park.

## WALKING BACK TO VILLA

Villa supporter John Boxley (left) walked 200 miles from Tyneside to Villa Park to raise money for charity.

John joined forces with Newcastle United fan Ian Hall and their efforts raised £1500 for the MS Society. They started after the Magpies' victory over Liverpool on 1st April and walked roughly 25 miles a day before arriving at Villa Park eight days later, in time for our 1-1 draw against Stoke City.

The intrepid duo are pictured with John's wife Alison, who was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis eight years ago, and his 11-year-old son Ben.







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# DARREN BENT

## ANSWERS SOME OFFBEAT POSERS...

### What's your favourite city?

Los Angeles is my favourite place in the world. I've been there for the past six years. It's a great city and the shops are really good. I love going to Hollywood, too.

### Who would play you in a film about your life?

Denzel Washington. If he could play me, I would be happy.

### What was your favourite subject at school?

PE, without a doubt. I wasn't much good at anything else, to be honest, but I loved things like football, athletics and table tennis.

### Do you sing in the shower?

Sometimes I have a sing-along to rap or a soul tune – but never in the changing rooms when the other players are around! I save it for when I'm at home.

### What's the best film you've seen this year?

I'm a pretty keen film buff, although I haven't been to the cinema too much lately. But I really enjoyed *Tron*.

### What's your favourite chocolate bar?

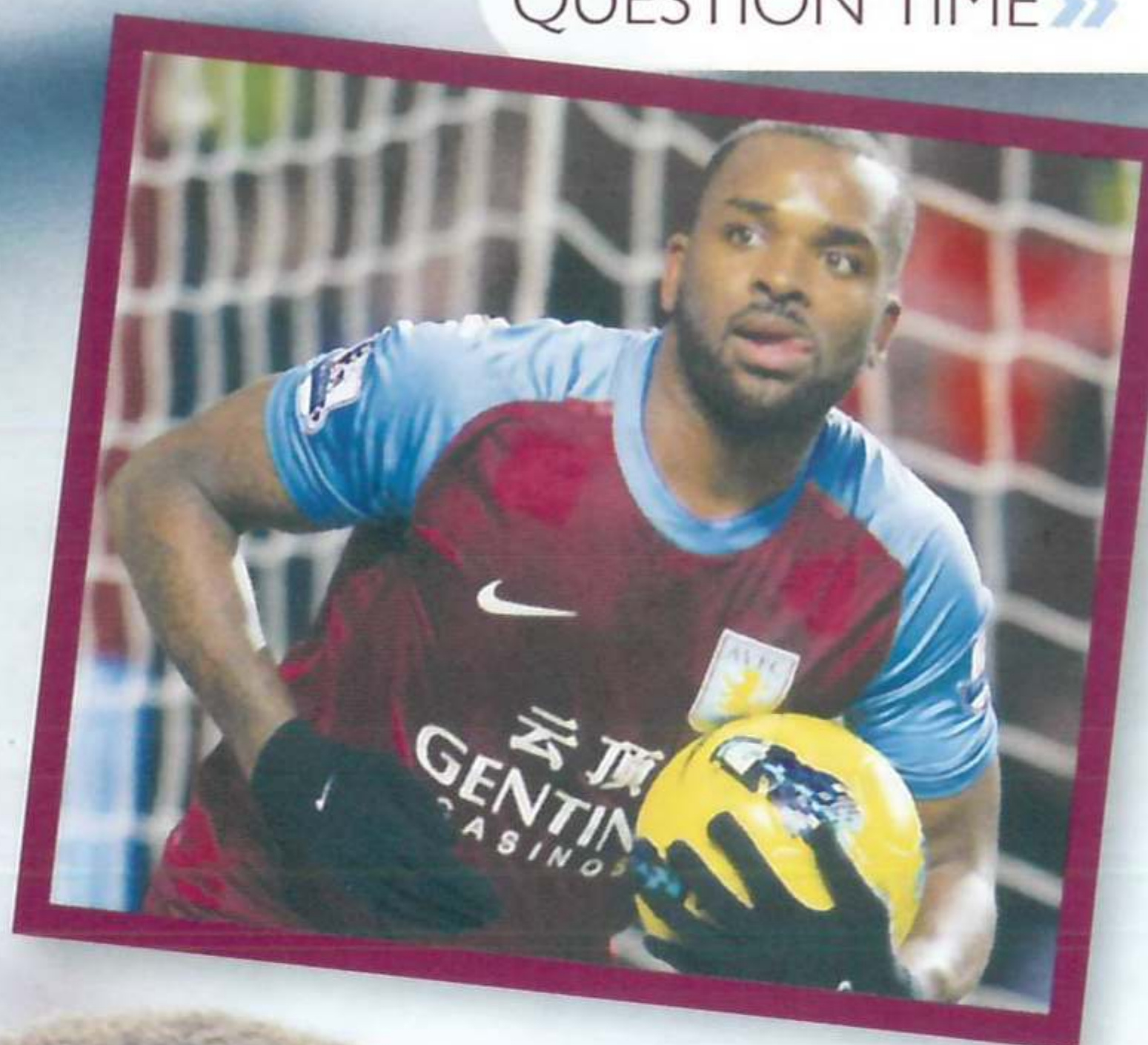
I don't eat much chocolate these days but when I was younger my favourite, by a mile, was Snickers.

### Do you have any sporting heroes?

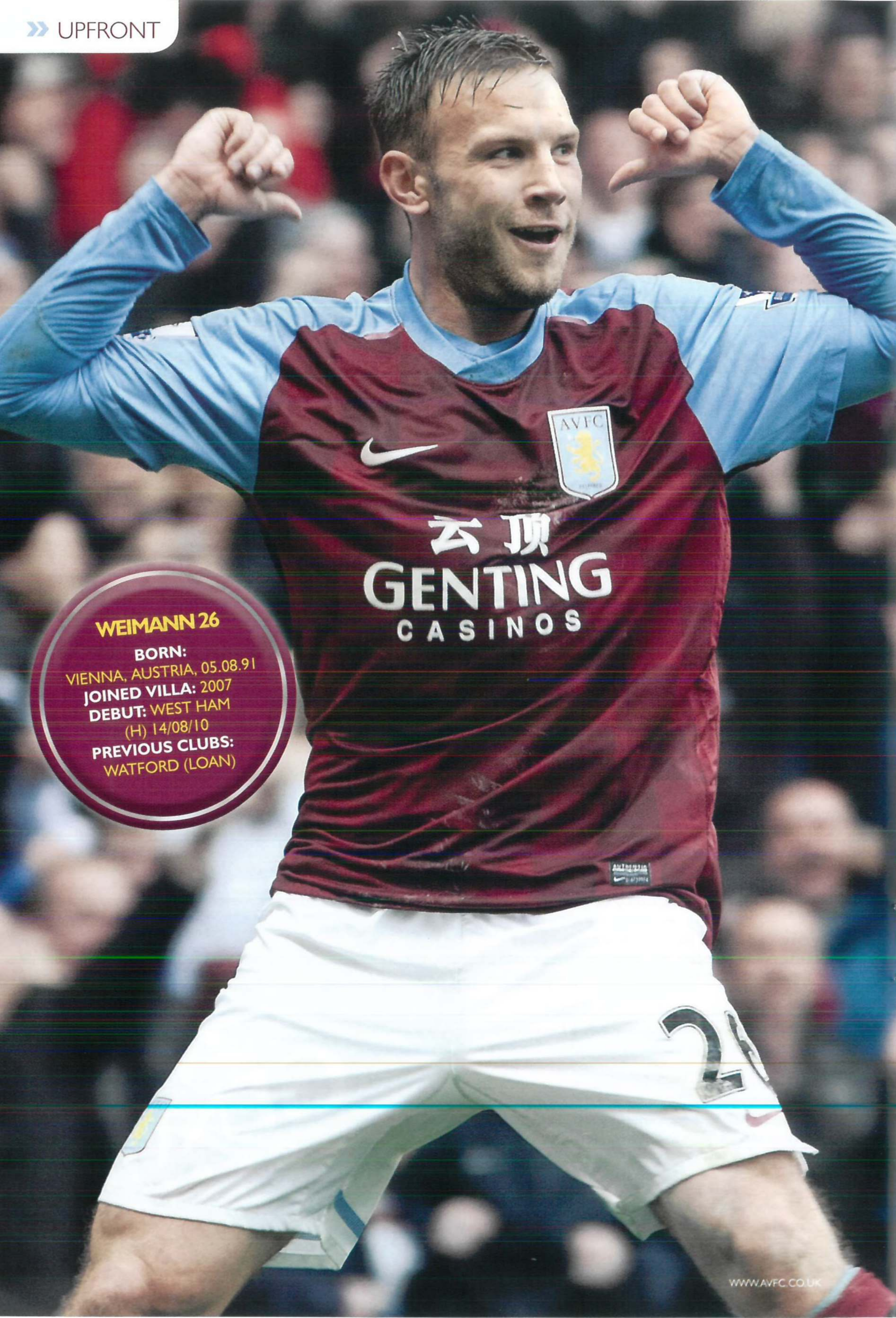
Michael Jordan and Muhammad Ali. I'm a big basketball fan and I love watching the Chicago Bulls. Jordan was an incredible player. Ali was before my time but I've seen a lot of his classic fights.

### Have you ever been on a blind date?

No – you never know what's going to happen. But I used to enjoy watching the TV show *Blind Date*!







**WEIMANN 26**

**BORN:**  
VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 05.08.91  
**JOINED VILLA:** 2007  
**DEBUT:** WEST HAM  
(H) 14/08/10  
**PREVIOUS CLUBS:**  
WATFORD (LOAN)



EXCLUSIVE! »

# RAPID RISE!

Andreas Weimann tells **Dan Harrison** how two contrasting strikes have propelled him into the spotlight.

**Andreas Weimann only moved into the first team dressing room a couple of months ago but he has already proved integral to Villa's season.**

A sumptuous 20-yard strike against Stoke City has done plenty to sway voters in the club's end-of-season polls, with Weimann now a serious contender for both the Young Player of the Year and Goal of the Season accolades.

That masterful moment in a Bank Holiday Monday war of attrition also earned the Austrian forward a place alongside Cristiano Ronaldo of Real Madrid and Newcastle's Hatem Ben Arfa in Sky Sports' Goal of the Week contest.

Weimann's speedy first team ascent has been a tale of two contrasting efforts.

The late winner he bundled over the line against Fulham in March may have lacked finesse but few goals scored in Villa's arduous campaign have been quite as significant.

The boyhood Rapid Vienna supporter has embarked on a rapid rise.

"The last few weeks have been absolutely brilliant for me because I have always wanted to play for the first team," he says.

"It is always nice when you read good things about yourself and you are always going to get confidence from it.

"But not much really has changed – it is still my job to try and score goals and create goals and work hard for the team. I always try my best »







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\*Under current DVLA regulations there is no charge for vehicle excise duty in the first year of registration and every subsequent year. Vehicle Excise Duty rates are reviewed annually by the government and are subject to change. †Source: JATO Dynamics. Based on volume-weighted average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km) of the best selling brands in Europe, year 2010.



» and work my hardest.”

It was in the aftermath of that victory over Fulham – the biggest weekend in Weimann’s fledgling career thus far – that we learned the true extent of his hunger for scoring goals.

Just 48 hours after soaking up the adulation of a packed Holte End, he put himself up for selection for the reserve team’s clash against Norwich City in front of a modest crowd of around 400.

Scoring both goals in a 2-0 victory still brought him tremendous satisfaction, adding to the two hat-tricks he had already netted for the second string against West Bromwich Albion and Wolves.

Like several members of Villa’s current squad, a trophy-laden couple of years with the reserves have shaped his footballing education.

Since arriving on English shores as a teenager, Weimann has become part of a band of brothers who have climbed through the claret and blue ranks together.

Not only have he, Barry Bannan, Ciaran Clark, Marc Albrighton, Eric Lichaj and Chris Herd been effective together on the field in recent years, they are virtually

inseparable off it.

Weimann, in fact, shares a house with American full-back Lichaj.

The pair try to keep tactical talk to a minimum at home although the temptation to discuss on-field matters is always there.

“We have all played together for four or five years now and we have come through together and also we are all very good friends,” Weimann explains.

“It helps that we all get on so well and we virtually spend most of the day together a lot of the time.

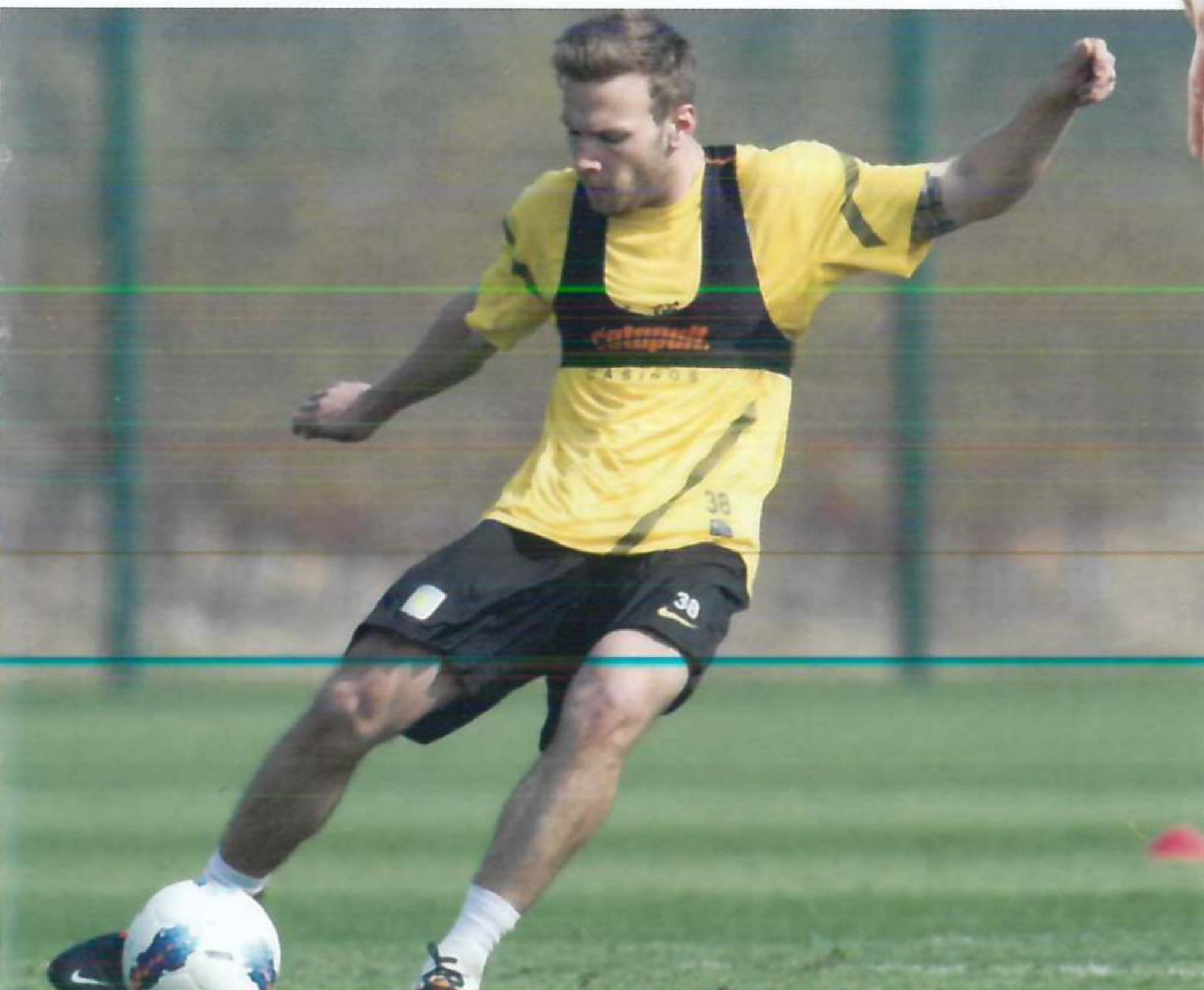
“Me and Eric try not to talk about football all the time. But if it comes up then maybe we will talk about it, especially after a game.

“But a lot of the time when we are at home we try and switch off from it.”

Outside of his close-knit friendship group, Weimann points to several older and wiser influences.

Sporting excellence runs in the family. Both of his parents »

**FF THE LAST FEW  
WEEKS HAVE BEEN  
BRILLIANT FOR ME. JJ**







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» were international athletes, with mum Sabine holding the Austrian 100m hurdles record for more than a decade.

Kevin MacDonald has been a strong mentor to Weimann as reserve team manager and first team coach.

The Scotsman also handed him his Premier League debut during a stint as caretaker boss.

Then there is stand-in skipper Gabby Agbonlahor, a player who Weimann now partners in attack, having emulated his path through the academy ranks.

"Kev has been great. We all know what he wants from us and what he expects.

"We all have so much respect for Kev because we have been with him for the last five years so it has really helped having him around the first team too.

"When I first came to Villa, Gabby was playing for the first team and I saw him and said that I wanted to be there.

"I wanted to be like him. Now I am playing alongside him.

"On the pitch he is a big help

**FF WHEN I CAME TO VILLA, GABBY WAS PLAYING FOR THE FIRST TEAM. I WANTED TO BE THERE. JJ**

because he speaks to me a lot and gives me advice about what to do. "When I have watched him in games I've seen things like his movement and tried to do the same things." It is almost five years since Weimann swapped the Austrian capital for the Second City and he now considers Birmingham his home.

There was even a suggestion following a recent Match of the Day interview that he is developing a Brummie twang.

"Everyone says something different about my accent!" he added. "But now I do call Birmingham my home and speaking English is just like speaking German."

He has certainly had no problem grasping the language of scoring goals.





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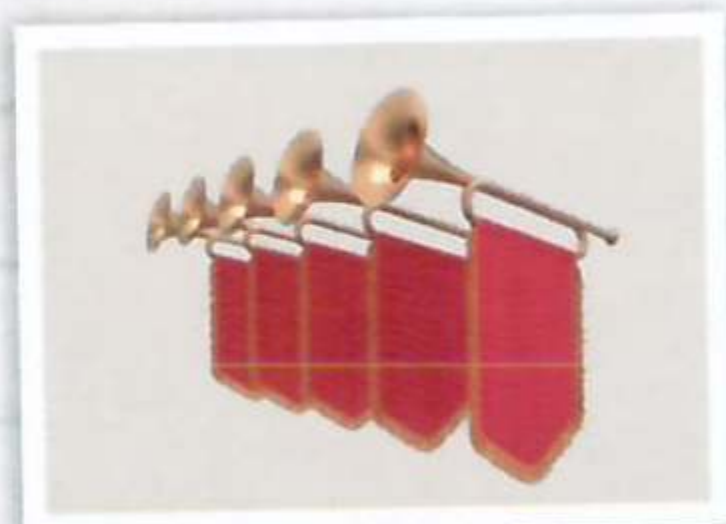
Food Champions

## Italian Night

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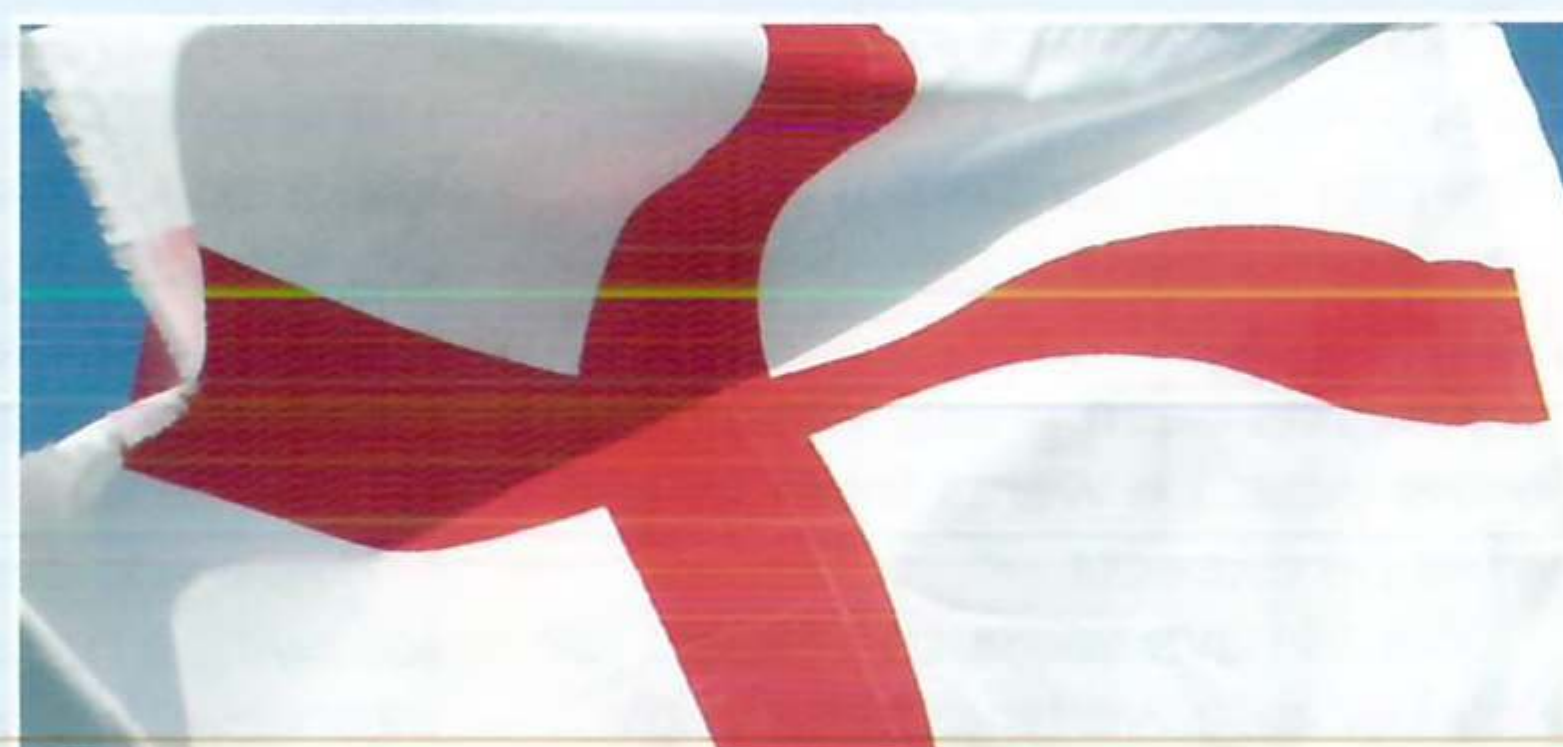
 England v Sweden 

FRIDAY 15 JUNE | 7.45PM KICK OFF



 England v Ukraine 

TUESDAY 19 JUNE | 7.45PM KICK OFF



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# CELTIC 3 RANGERS 2



It's a case of three against two when it comes to Old Firm allegiance in the Villa dressing room – and right now the trio of Celtic fans are enjoying the upper hand at the expense of former Rangers manager **Alex McLeish** and ex-Ibrox defender **Carlos Cuellar**.

Rangers' current problems certainly haven't gone unnoticed by midfielder Barry Bannan, skipper Stiliyan Petrov and assistant manager Peter Grant, who all favour the team from the other side of Glasgow.

"I've always been a Celtic fan and I talk about them now and again with Stan and Peter," said Bannan. "The boss and Carlos obviously follow Rangers – but we have the upper hand at the moment!"

The fact that Bannan is such a staunch Hoops fan, and that Petrov once played for them, has made the duo firm friends since the Bulgarian midfielder joined Villa in 2006.

Now Bannan and his team-mates are right behind the club captain as he battles to overcome acute leukaemia.

"When I was coming through the ranks, I looked up to players like Stan, Gareth Barry and James Milner," said Bannan. "They really helped me – especially Stan because he knows I'm a Celtic fan."

"We clicked straight away and he has been brilliant for me while I have been growing up here, almost like a father figure. I can't thank him enough."

"He's going through a really tough time at the moment but you wouldn't know from being around him. He is always positive and looking ahead."

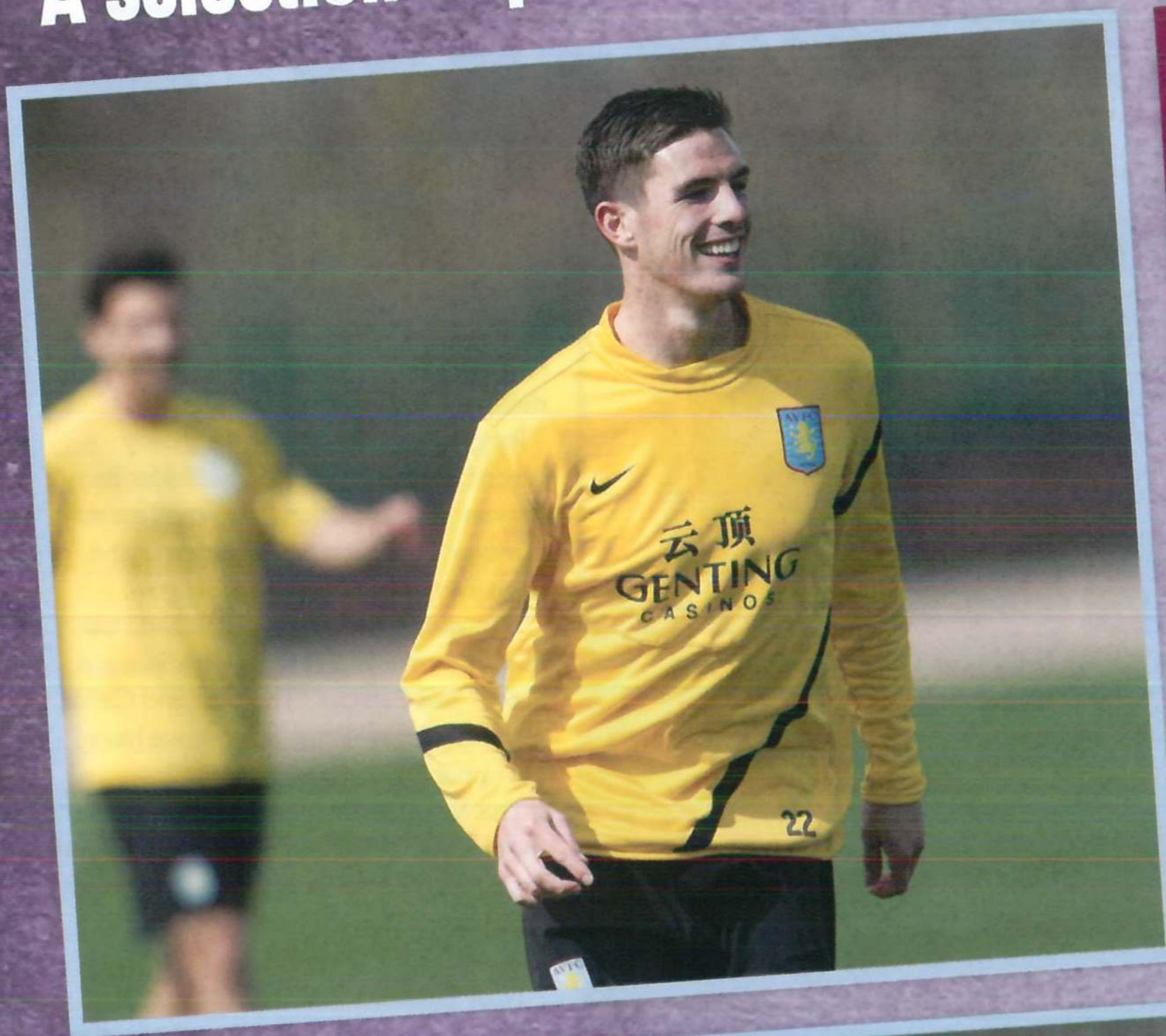
"He came into the training ground last week and was laughing and telling jokes. He might be fighting illness but he will be following us every step of the way."





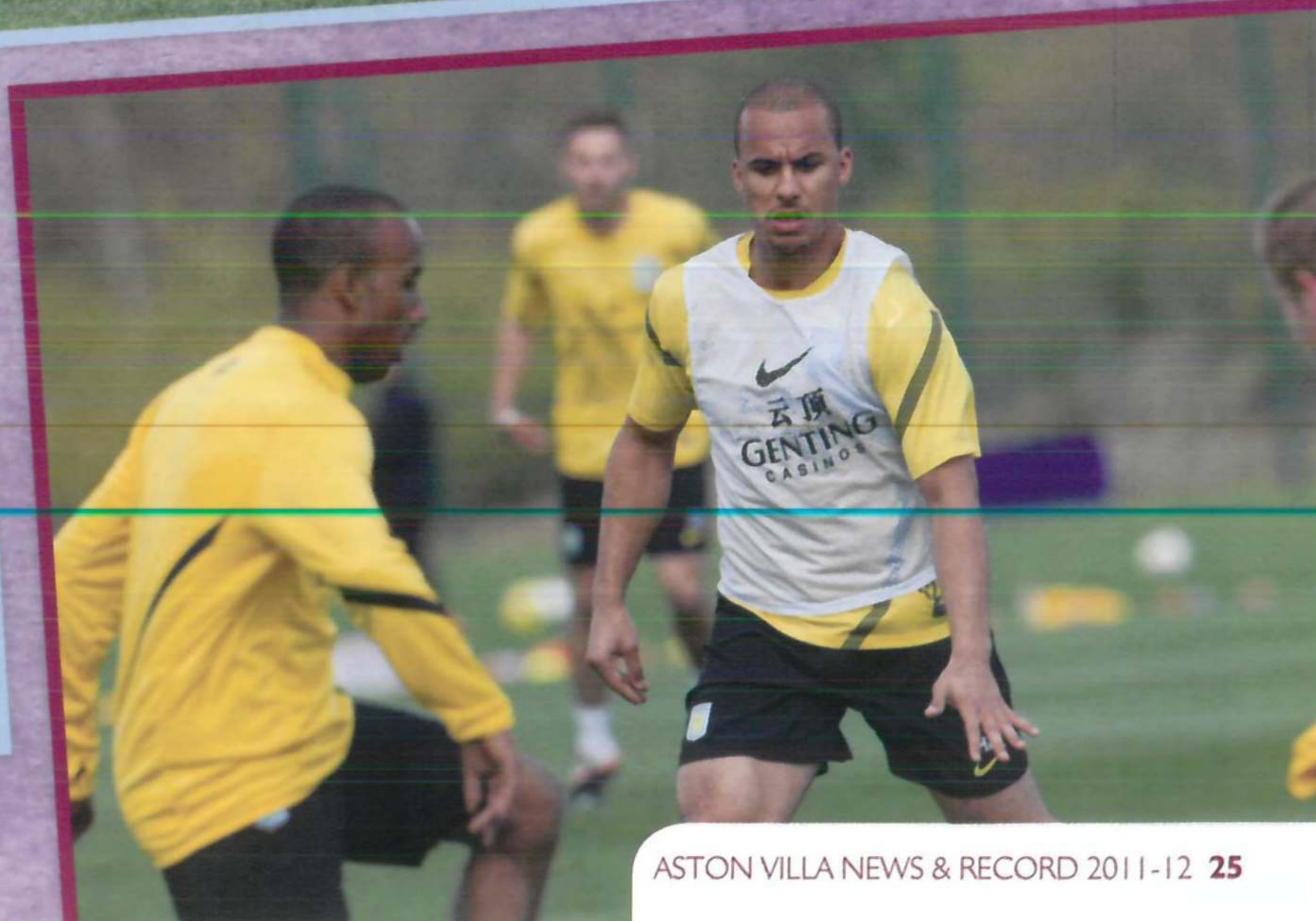
# THE BODYMOOR

A selection of photos from the training ground.





# BEAT







## INTRODUCING TODAY'S OPPOSITION

# BOLTON WANDERERS

### HONOURS

#### FA CUP

WINNERS 1923, 1926, 1929, 1958

RUNNERS-UP 1894, 1904, 1953

#### FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP

RUNNERS-UP 1995, 2004

#### FA CHARITY SHIELD

WINNERS 1958

#### FOOTBALL LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION (SECOND TIER)

CHAMPIONS 1908-09, 1977-79, 1996-97

RUNNERS-UP 1899-90, 1904-05, 1910-11, 1934-35

PLAY-OFF WINNERS 1995, 2001

#### FOOTBALL LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION (THIRD TIER)

CHAMPIONS 1972-73

RUNNERS-UP 1992-93

#### FOOTBALL LEAGUE TROPHY

CHAMPIONS 1989

RUNNERS-UP 1986

### SPOTLIGHT



The name of the game is survival for Bolton Wanderers as they approach the final five games of the Barclays Premier League season.

It has been a testing time for the Trotters on and off the field lately. Football rightfully took a back seat for everyone associated with the club following the cardiac arrest suffered by Fabrice Muamba during their FA Cup tie at Tottenham.

Thankfully Muamba has made a

remarkable recovery and, while he continues his battle, Bolton have been playing with an extra incentive to succeed for the popular midfielder.

A tough time on the field for the North West outfit was made even more difficult by the January departure of Gary Cahill to Chelsea, although Coyle subsequently brought in American defender Tim Ream, Watford forward Marvin Sordell and promising Arsenal star Ryo Miyaichi to boost his numbers.

## THREE OF THE BEST



#### THE MANAGER

Bolton's status as a firmly-established top-flight club is largely down to the work of Sam Allardyce who was boss between 1999

and 2007. He gradually transformed the club from second tier also-rans to European chasers, as well as reaching the 2004 Carling Cup final.



#### THE PLAYER

Nat Lofthouse's record of 255 goals from 452 appearance speaks for itself. Born and bred in Bolton, Lofthouse spent his entire 14-year professional career

with his hometown club, between 1946 and 1960. He scored two goals and lifted the FA Cup when the Trotters defeat Manchester United in 1958.



#### THE GAME

The route of Bolton's resurgence as a top-flight club was the 2001 play-off final when they defeated Preston 3-0 at the Millennium Stadium.

Stalwart Ricardo Gardner (pictured) rounded off the scoring after Gareth Farrelly and Michael Ricketts established a two-goal lead.



**MANAGER:**  
Owen Coyle  
**FOUNDED:** 1874  
**NICKNAME:** The Trotters  
**GROUND:** Reebok Stadium  
**LAST SEASON**  
**PREMIER LEAGUE:** 14th  
**FA CUP:** Semi-finals  
**LEAGUE CUP:**  
Third round

## LAST FIVE GAMES

|        |   |              |                |     |
|--------|---|--------------|----------------|-----|
| Mar 27 | A | Tottenham    | FA Cup         | 1-3 |
| Mar 31 | A | Wolves       | Premier League | 3-2 |
| Apr 7  | H | Fulham       | Premier League | 0-3 |
| Apr 9  | A | Newcastle    | Premier League | 0-2 |
| Apr 21 | H | Swansea City | Premier League | 1-1 |

## INS AND OUTS

**IN:** Darren Pratley (Swansea City, free), Nigel Reo-Coker (Aston Villa, free), Chris Eagles (Burnley, undisclosed), Tyrone Mears (Burnley, undisclosed), David Ngog (Liverpool, undisclosed), Tuncay Sanli (Wolfsburg, loan), Dedryck Boyata (Manchester City, loan), Gael Kakuta (Chelsea, loan), Tim Ream (New York Red Bulls, undisclosed), Marvin Sordell (Watford, undisclosed), Ryo Miyaichi (Arsenal, loan).

**OUT:** J'lloyd Samuel (released), Joey O'Brien (West Ham United, free), Tamir Cohen (Maccabi Haifa, free), Johan Elmander (Galatasaray, free), Sam Sheridan (Stockport County, free), Ali Al-Habsi (Wigan Athletic, undisclosed), Danny Ward (Huddersfield Town, undisclosed), Matthew Taylor (West Ham United, undisclosed), Rhys Bennett (Falkirk, loan), Gary Cahill (Chelsea, undisclosed), Jack Sampson (Southend United, loan), Graeme MacGregor (Hamilton Academical, loan), Mark Connolly (Macclesfield Town, loan), Sean Davis (Bristol City, loan), Paul Robinson (Leeds United, loan).



**LINE-UP v NEWCASTLE**

### PLAYING CAREER

|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 1985-88   | Dumbarton          |
| 1988-90   | Clydebank          |
| 1990-93   | Airdrieonians      |
| 1993-95   | Bolton Wanderers   |
| 1995-97   | Dundee United      |
| 1997-99   | Motherwell         |
| 1999-2001 | Dunfermline        |
| 2000-01   | Ross County (loan) |
| 2001-02   | Airdrieonians      |
| 2002-03   | Falkirk            |
| 2003-04   | Dundee United      |
| 2003-04   | Airdrie (loan)     |
| 2004-05   | Airdrie United     |
| 2005-07   | St Johnstone       |

### MANAGERIAL CAREER

|         |                  |
|---------|------------------|
| 2003    | Falkirk          |
| 2005-07 | St Johnstone     |
| 2007-10 | Burnley          |
| 2010-   | Bolton Wanderers |

## The manager OWEN COYLE

**BORN:** 14.07.66 in Paisley, Scotland

Owen Coyle join Bolton Wanderers in 2010 and was quick to win over Trotters fans with his commitment to playing attacking football.

Upon returning to the club he once served as a player, after leaving Burnley, Coyle immediately set about imposing his footballing philosophies at the Reebok Stadium.

The results were instant too. The Scotsman steered Bolton away from the drop zone in his first season before guiding them to the semi-finals of the FA Cup last term.

Coyle worked wonders north of the border, beginning his managerial journey at St Johnstone.



A year after taking charge, he guided them to second place in the First Division and the semi-finals of both domestic cup competitions.

Burnley came calling and during his spell at Turf Moor, Coyle masterminded wins over Arsenal and Chelsea en route to the semi-finals of the Carling Cup and guided the Claretts to promotion following a Championship play-off final victory over Sheffield United.



## STAR MAN

### NIGEL REO-COKER MIDFIELDER

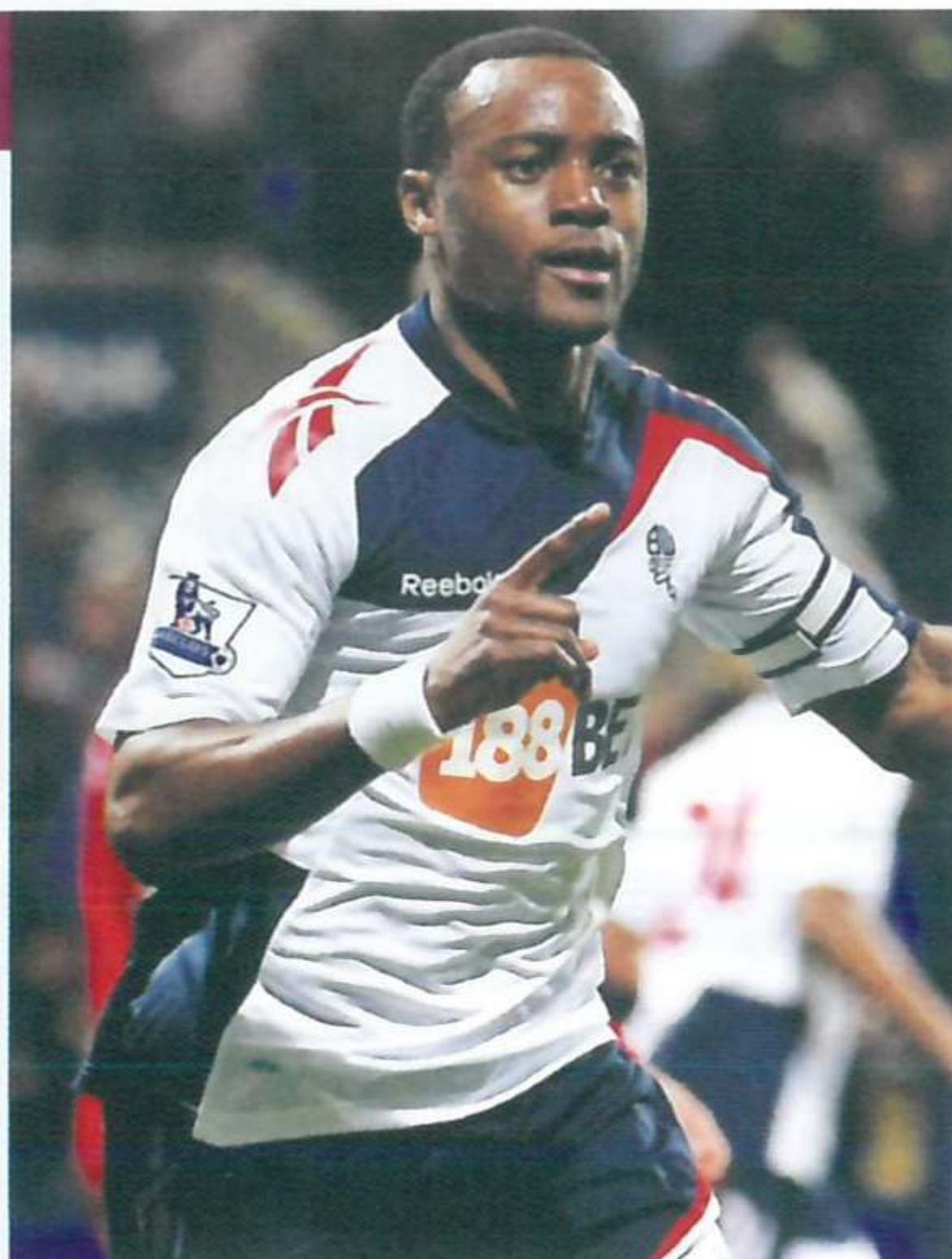
DOB 14.05.84

NATIONALITY ENGLISH

With more than 100 Villa appearances to his name, Reo-Coker was a popular figure among the claret and blue faithful during his four-year stay here.

But the former England U21 skipper swapped Villa Park for the Reebok Stadium in the summer and has since become a prominent figure in Bolton's midfield.

He missed out on the League Cup game between the two sides back in September so, if selected, this will be his first return to B6.



Reo-Coker scored his first official goal for Bolton in a win over Blackburn in December, after a previous effort against Wigan was eventually credited as a Gary Caldwell own goal by the Dubious Goals Panel.

But it is for his defensive work and ball-winning capabilities that the 27-year-old is best known.

Having graduated through Wimbledon's academy, he made 64 appearances for the Dons before leaving for Upton Park in January 2004 for a fee of £500,000.

He helped Alan Pardew's team win promotion and reach the FA Cup final.

## PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

### GRETAR RAFN STEINSSON

DEFENDER

DOB 09.01.82

NATIONALITY ICELANDIC

This Icelandic full-back made 23 appearances in his third full campaign at the Reebok Stadium last season. He joined the Trotters in January 2008 from Dutch side AZ Alkmaar for £3.5m and has been a popular figure on and off the field ever since.

### ADAM BOGDAN

GOALKEEPER

DOB 27.09.87

NATIONALITY HUNGARIAN

Bogdan has become one of the Premier League's rising goalkeeping stars since getting a run in Bolton's first team last season. He played a part in their run to the semi-finals of the FA Cup as well as making a handful of league appearances.

### DEDRYCK BOYATA

DEFENDER

DOB 28.11.90

NATIONALITY BELGIAN

On-loan Manchester City defender Boyata is hoping to gain some valuable top flight experience during his temporary stint at the Reebok Stadium. He joined City's youth academy from Brussels in 2006 and went on to make his first team debut at Eastlands three years later.



VILLA  
MOMENTS

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## MANAGERIAL RECORDS

### Alex McLeish

Played 33 Won 7 Drawn 14 Lost 12  
For 35 Against 48  
Av Pts/game 1.06  
Biggest Win(s) Won 3-1 on 2 occasions  
Biggest Loss(es) Man Utd 4  
Aston Villa 0 (15/04/2012).

### Owen Coyle

Played 90 Won 27 Drawn 15 Lost 48  
For 104 Against 152  
Av Pts/game 1.07  
Biggest Win(s) Bolton 5 Stoke 0  
(06/11/2011). Biggest Loss(es) Bolton  
0 Man Utd 5 (10/09/2011).

## MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played .....9 | Alex McLeish.....2 | Owen Coyle .....4  
Draws.....3 | Goals 12 | Goals 15

### Player with the most...

#### shots

Gabriel  
Agbonlahor 41

#### shots on target

Darren  
Bent 27

#### shots off target

Charles  
N'Zogbia 21

#### assists

Gabriel  
Agbonlahor 7

#### crosses

Marc  
Albrighton 70

#### fouls

Gabriel  
Agbonlahor 35

#### free-kicks-won

Gabriel  
Agbonlahor 39

#### tackles

Stephen  
Warnock 102



### Player with the most...

#### shots

Chris  
Eagles 64

#### shots on target

Chris  
Eagles 44

#### shots off target

Chris  
Eagles 20

#### assists

Chris  
Eagles 7

#### crosses

Martin  
Petrov 82

#### fouls

David  
Ngog 49

#### free-kicks-won

David  
Ngog 46

#### tackles

Nigel  
Reo-Coker 94

## GAMES SINCE

|    |                       |    |
|----|-----------------------|----|
| 5  | a win                 | 2  |
| 2  | a home win            | 1  |
| 7  | an away win           | 1  |
| 0  | a defeat              | 0  |
| 1  | a home defeat         | 0  |
| 0  | an away defeat        | 0  |
| 1  | a score draw          | 16 |
| 7  | a no score draw       | 11 |
| 0  | conceding a goal      | 0  |
| 1  | scoring a goal        | 2  |
| 0  | conceding > 1         | 0  |
| 3  | scoring > 1           | 2  |
| 5  | keeping a clean sheet | 8  |
| 0  | failing to score      | 0  |
| 34 | back to back wins     | 4  |
| 3  | back to back defeats  | 0  |
| 1  | gaining a point       | 2  |
| 0  | losing a point        | 0  |
| 14 | win by > one          | 8  |
| 0  | loss by > one         | 0  |

## SHARP SHOOTERS

| Aston Villa        | Prem | Cup | Tot | Bolton        | Prem | Cup | Tot |
|--------------------|------|-----|-----|---------------|------|-----|-----|
| Darren Bent        | 9    | 1   | 10  | Ivan Klasnic  | 8    | 1   | 9   |
| Gabriel Agbonlahor | 5    | 1   | 6   | Chris Eagles  | 3    | 2   | 5   |
| Stiliyan Petrov    | 4    | 0   | 4   | Kevin Davies  | 3    | 2   | 5   |
| Marc Albrighton    | 2    | 1   | 3   | Martin Petrov | 2    | 2   | 4   |
| Andreas Weimann    | 2    | 0   | 2   | Mark Davies   | 3    | 0   | 3   |

## TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played .....151 | Aston Villa wins .....60 | Bolton wins.....54  
Draws.....37 | Goals 245 (1.6 per game) | Goals 237 (1.6 per game)  
0-0's .....6 | Times failed to score 34 | Times failed to score 35

Biggest League win at Aston Villa for each team:  
03/09/1932 Aston Villa 6-1 Bolton  
26/12/1914 Aston Villa 1-7 Bolton

**PRESS  
ASSOCIATION  
Sport**

## EA SPORTS

## PLAYER PERFORMANCE INDEX

### ASTON VILLA

| Rank | Name         | Score |
|------|--------------|-------|
| 53   | S Warnock    | 372   |
| 74   | J Collins    | 343   |
| 78   | G Agbonlahor | 341   |
| 86   | S Petrov     | 326   |
| 102  | D Bent       | 303   |

### BOLTON

| Rank | Name        | Score |
|------|-------------|-------|
| 106  | M Davies    | 300   |
| 117  | N Reo-Coker | 291   |
| 171  | I Klasnic   | 233   |
| 173  | M Petrov    | 230   |
| 186  | D Wheeler   | 218   |

Top five ranked players for each team

## LEAGUE STATS



|    |               |    |
|----|---------------|----|
| 15 | Position      | 18 |
| 33 | Played        | 32 |
| 7  | Won           | 9  |
| 14 | Drawn         | 2  |
| 12 | Lost          | 21 |
| 35 | Goals For     | 36 |
| 48 | Goals Against | 65 |
| 35 | Points        | 29 |



### Record Against Top Half of Table

| W | D | L  | RANK | W | D | L  | RANK |
|---|---|----|------|---|---|----|------|
| 2 | 6 | 10 | 18   | 2 | 1 | 15 | 20   |

### Record Against Bottom Half of Table

| W | D | L | RANK | W | D | L | RANK |
|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|------|
| 5 | 8 | 2 | 15   | 7 | 1 | 6 | 16   |

### Record When Scoring First

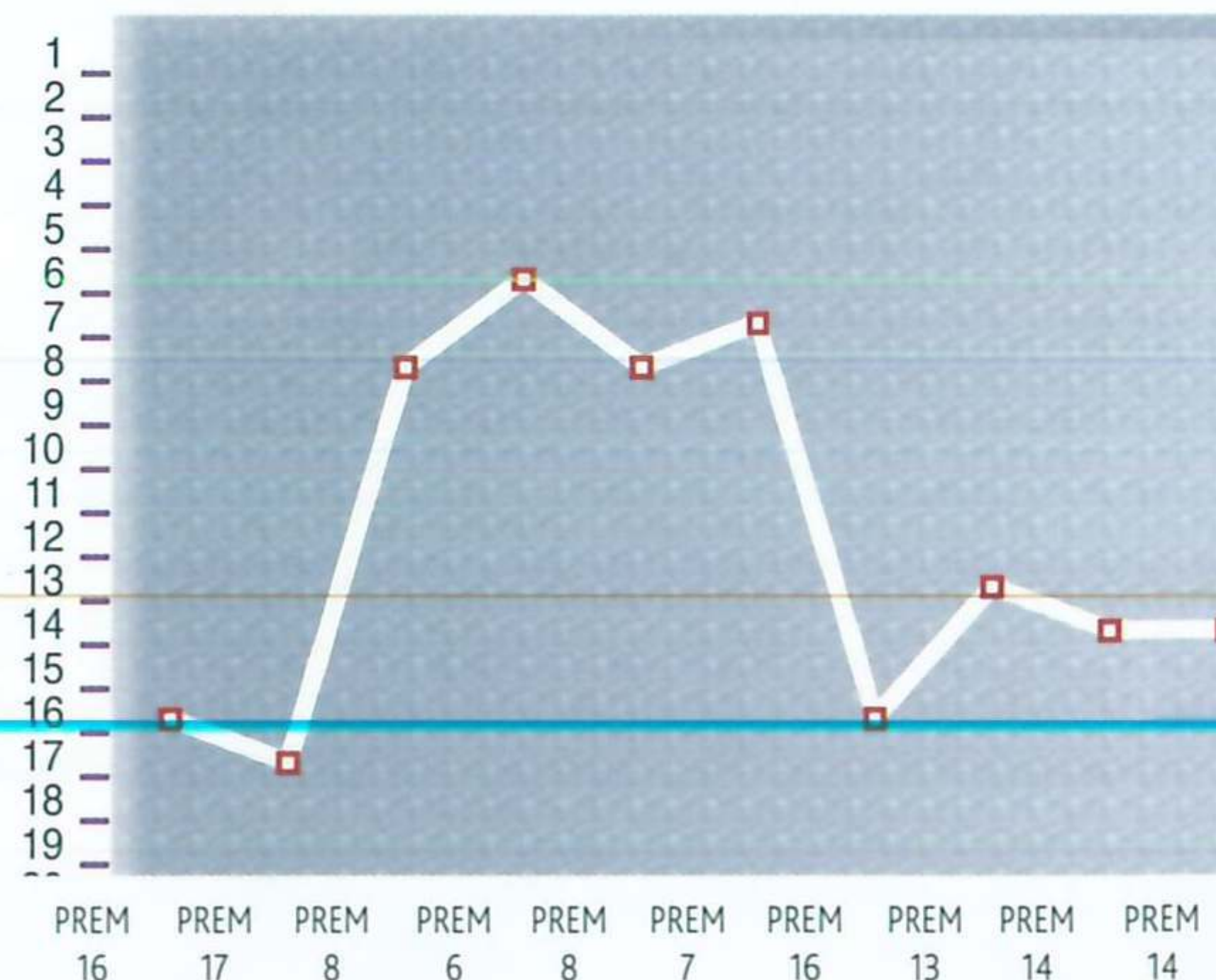
| W | D | L | RANK | W | D | L | RANK |
|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|------|
| 5 | 7 | 1 | 18   | 7 | 1 | 0 | 15   |

### Record When Conceding First

| W | D | L  | RANK | W | D | L  | RANK |
|---|---|----|------|---|---|----|------|
| 2 | 2 | 11 | 11   | 2 | 0 | 21 | 13   |

## BOLTON - TEN SEASON RECORD

01/02 02/03 03/04 04/05 05/06 06/07 07/08 08/09 09/10 10/11



\*up to and including 18/04/2012



**ZAT KNIGHT**  
**DEFENDER****DOB** 02.05.80**NATIONALITY** ENGLISH

Another former Villa man in the Trotters ranks, Knight has been one of the first names on the Bolton team sheet since his transfer from Villa Park in July 2009. He is best remembered by Villa fans for two super strikes – a goal on his debut in August 2007 and a stunning volleyed equaliser in a 2-2 draw against Arsenal.

**TIM REAM**  
**DEFENDER****DOB** 14.02.87**NATIONALITY** AMERICAN

Ream was one of several January signings made by Owen Coyle. The defender signed from Major League Soccer outfit New York Red Bulls and was handed his Bolton debut in the recent FA Cup victory over Millwall.

**CHRIS EAGLES**  
**MIDFIELDER****DOB** 19.11.85**NATIONALITY** ENGLISH

Eagles and team-mate Tyrone Mears joined Bolton in a double transfer swoop from Burnley last summer. The talented attacking midfielder was a key figure for Coyle at Turf Moor and will be hoping to replicate that success at the Reebok Stadium this term.

**MARK DAVIES**  
**MIDFIELDER****DOB** 18.02.88**NATIONALITY** ENGLISH

Highly-rated Davies joined Bolton in 2009 from Wolverhampton Wanderers, where he came through the youth ranks. He had a vital role in Bolton's midfield last term and scored the club's goal of the season in a 2-2 draw against Blackpool.

**MARTIN PETROV**  
**MIDFIELDER****DOB** 15.01.79**NATIONALITY** BULGARIAN

Skilful wideman Petrov has a wealth of top level experience having played for Manchester City, German side Wolfsburg and Spanish club Atletico Madrid. As well as creating lots of chances, Petrov has an eye for goal and has scored 19 times in 89 appearances for Bulgaria.

**STUART HOLDEN**  
**MIDFIELDER****DOB** 01.08.85**NATIONALITY** AMERICAN

Holden has endured injury frustration in recent months. He made his return from a cruciate ligament injury when Bolton faced Villa in the Carling Cup earlier this season but suffered a further setback, meaning another long-term lay-off.

**CHUNG-YONG LEE**  
**MIDFIELDER****DOB** 02.07.88**NATIONALITY** SOUTH KOREAN

Chung-Yong Lee was snapped up from FC Seoul and is considered one of South Korea's top prospects. A tremendous first season in 2009-10 saw him land Bolton's Player of the Year, Players' Player of the Year and best newcomer awards.

**DARREN PRATLEY**  
**MIDFIELDER****DOB** 22.04.85**NATIONALITY** ENGLISH

Pratley moved to Bolton on a Bosman transfer in July having helped Swansea City reach the Premier League by starring in their play-off success. He began his career at Fulham and also had a brief loan spell at Brentford.

**IVAN KLASNIC**  
**FORWARD****DOB** 29.01.80**NATIONALITY** CROATIAN

This Croatian international re-signed for Bolton on a permanent basis in summer 2010 following a successful loan spell from Nantes. He scored the vital winner against Villa in a 3-2 victory for the Trotters last term. Klasnic made a storming start to 2011-12 with three goals from his first four starts.





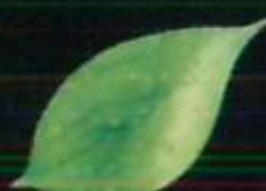


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**TUNCAY SANLI**  
**FORWARD**
**DOB 16.01.82**
**NATIONALITY TURKISH**

Tuncay became Owen Coyle's fifth signing of the summer when he joined on a season-long loan from German side Wolfsburg. The skilful striker has bags of Premier League experience having spent time at Stoke City and Middlesbrough.

**KEVIN DAVIES**  
**FORWARD**
**DOB 26.03.77**
**NATIONALITY ENGLISH**

Davies has produced the best football of his career since joining Bolton from Southampton in 2003. He may not be the most prolific in front of goal but the former Chesterfield, Southampton and Blackburn Rovers striker has been a nuisance to Premier League defences down the years.

**RYO MIYAICHI**  
**FORWARD**
**DOB 14.12.92**
**NATIONALITY JAPANESE**

Arsenal loanee Miyaichi made a great start to life at Bolton with a goal in his first start against Millwall in the FA Cup. He is yet to make an appearance for his parent club although the Japanese forward enjoyed another loan spell at Dutch side Feyenoord.

**DAVID NGOG**  
**FORWARD**
**DOB 01.04.89**
**NATIONALITY FRENCH**

Ngog arrived at Bolton with a point to prove after dropping down the pecking order towards the end of his three-year stay at Liverpool. The former Paris St Germain striker managed eight goals from 38 appearances at Anfield last season.

**MARVIN SORDELL**  
**FORWARD**
**DOB 17.02.91**
**NATIONALITY ENGLISH**

Another of Coyle's January signings, Sordell arrived at the Reebok Stadium from Watford, where he scored 10 goals in all competitions this term. He impressed for the Hornets in 2010/11 with 15 goals from 29 starts.





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# MY FAVOURITE VILLAN



## UNASSUMING – AND UNIQUE



**EAMON DEACY**  
BY STEVE STRIDE  
FORMER VILLA SECRETARY

I worked for Villa for 35 years, and throughout my time with the club I missed only one home game between 1972 and 2007.

During that period I watched hundreds of footballers pass through the club. Yet when I was asked a couple of months ago about the possibility of writing an appreciation of my favourite Villan, just one name came to mind.

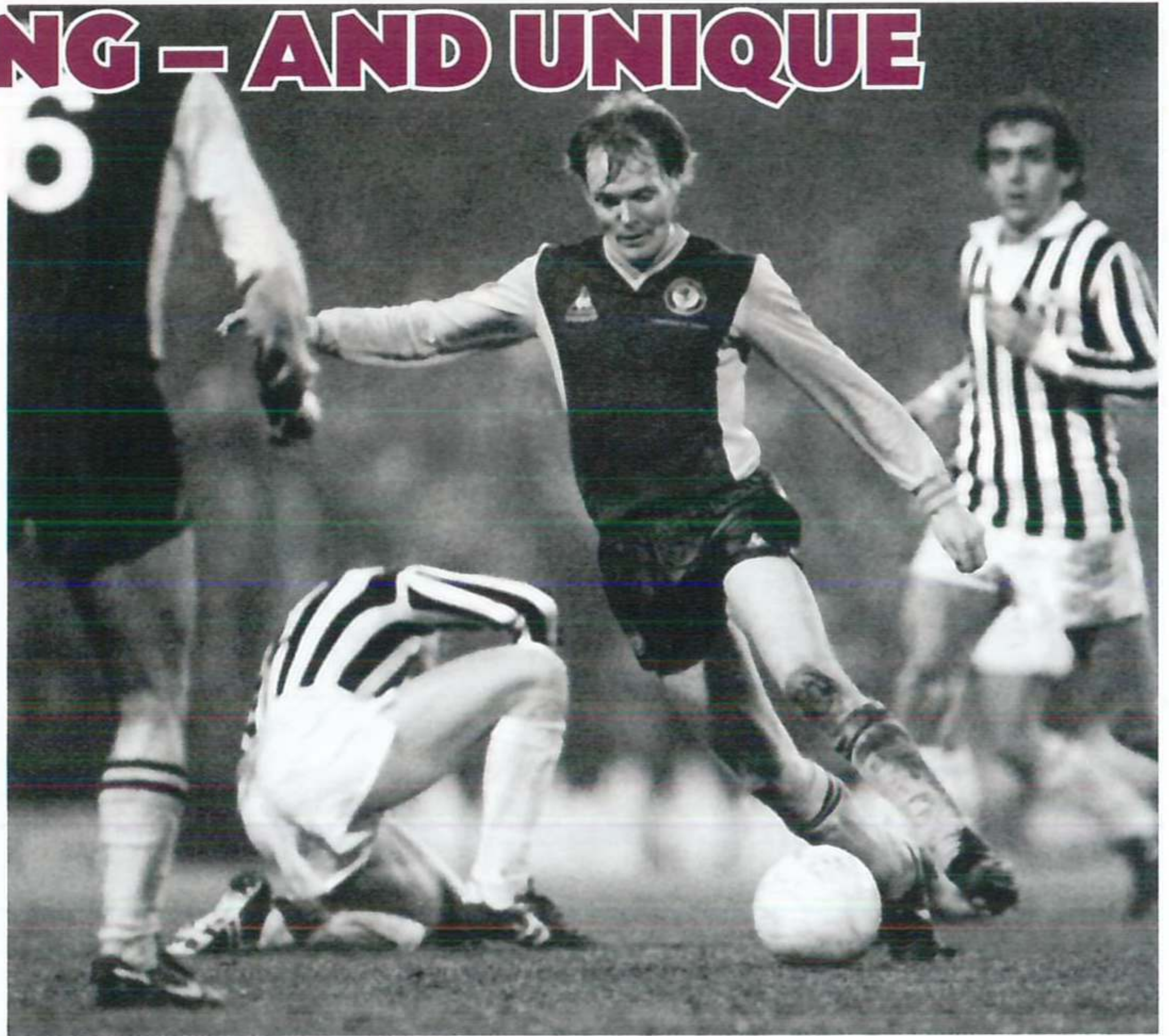
Sadly, I was unable to commit my thoughts about Eamon Deacy to paper before his untimely death last month but I'm proud to be doing so now as a personal tribute to him.

Why was he my favourite? Simple – because he was unique among all the footballers I have known. He was nowhere near the best (although he was much better than he actually thought) but it was as a human being, rather than a footballer, that I had such great affection for him.

On the pitch, he never gave less than 100 per cent and was a ferocious tackler. He will also be remembered forever as one of only 14 players used by manager Ron Saunders during Villa's last title triumph in 1980-81.

But it was off the pitch that he really endeared himself to me. He didn't particularly look like a footballer, and from the day he arrived here until the day he left he couldn't quite believe he had played the game as a professional.

Very much an introvert, celebrity status didn't sit comfortably with him. He was just grateful for every day of his time here. If you don't believe me, ask Ron Saunders. Every New Year's Eve, right up to last year, Eamon used to ring Ron to tell him how much he appreciated it.



I will never forget the day the manager called me to say Eamon had been offered a two-year contract extension at an extra £50 a week. Ron said Eamon would be popping down to Villa Park that afternoon to sign it, but he didn't turn up.

It was a couple of days before Eamon eventually knocked on the door of my office. When I asked where he had been, he said: "I don't deserve a new contract. I haven't played enough games. I'm not worth another £50 a week."

I had to force him to sign that contract, and it was a similar story when the players were presented with their League Championship medals at Birmingham Council House. Eamon literally had to be thrown on to the stage to receive his because he felt he hadn't done enough to warrant it.

Nothing had changed when I last saw him a few years ago, at a former players' function at Penn's Hall Hotel in Sutton Coldfield. There was no sign

of him before dinner and even after everyone else had taken their seats, he still hadn't shown up.

He was so nervous that someone had to go up to his room and coax him to come down. All those years after playing at football's top level – including a European Cup quarter-final against Juventus – he was as unassuming as ever.

More than anything, I wish I could somehow transfer Eamon's infectious laugh on to the pages of this programme. If you never heard it, you missed something that was priceless. If you did hear it, you were as privileged as me.

**EAMON  
DEACY**

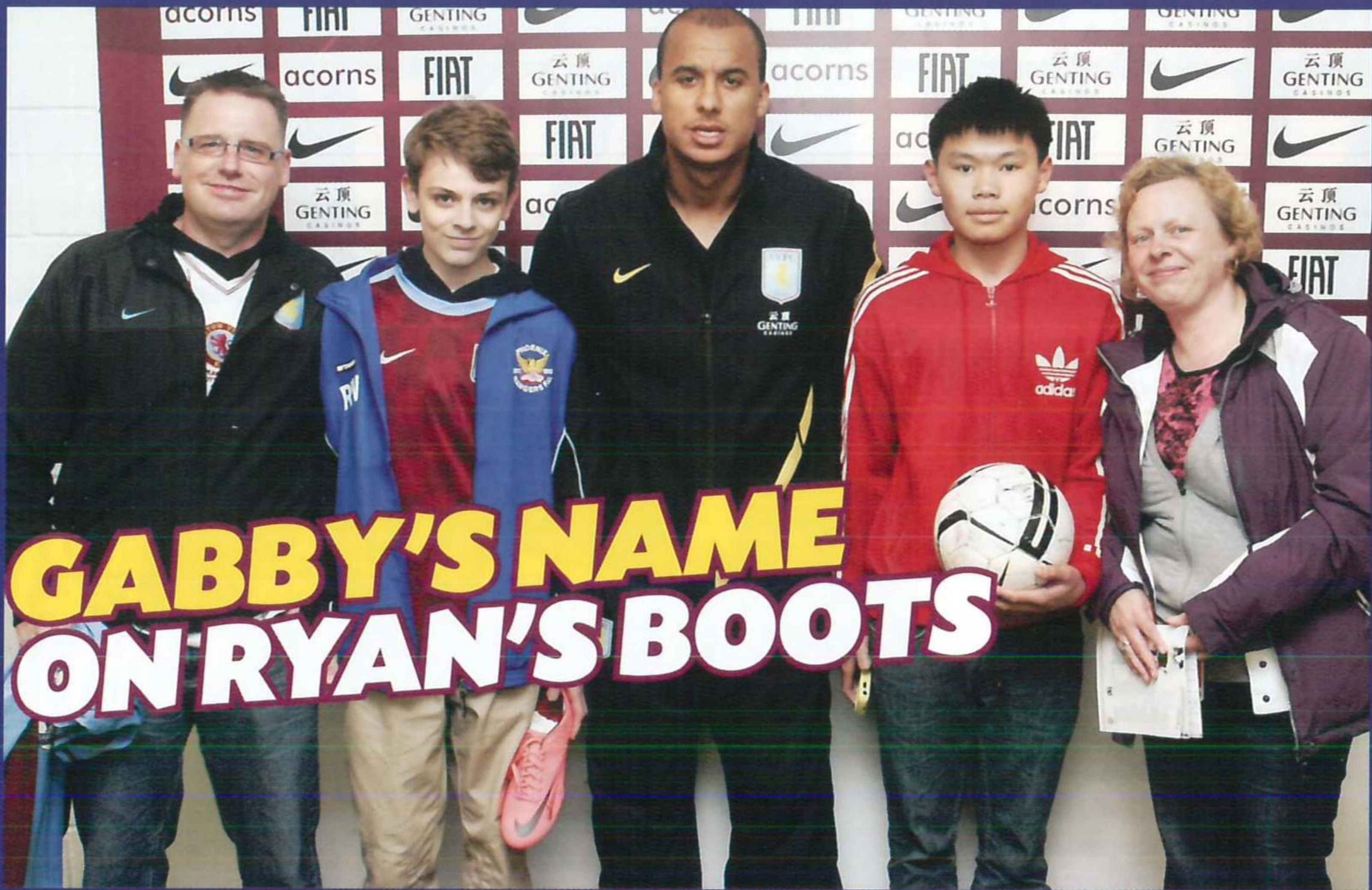


**Born:** GALWAY, 01/10/1953

**Debut:** TOTTENHAM (A) 15/12/1979

**Appearances:** 41    **Goals:** 1





# GABBY'S NAME ON RYAN'S BOOTS

There was a double thrill for Ryan Walters when he entered an exclusive competition for JV-Life members. Not only did the 13-year-old Villa fanatic win a pair of Nike Mercurial Vapor football boots, he also had them signed by Gabby Agbonlahor. Villa's acting captain was only too happy to sign the boots when he met Ryan and his family

at the recent home match against Stoke City. Ryan won the fantastic prize by successfully unscrambling the anagram GRANOLA HOB. We wonder if you can guess what the answer was! For details on how to join JV-Life, and have a chance of winning great prizes and being a Villa mascot, check out **JOIN THE CLUB** on the opposite page.

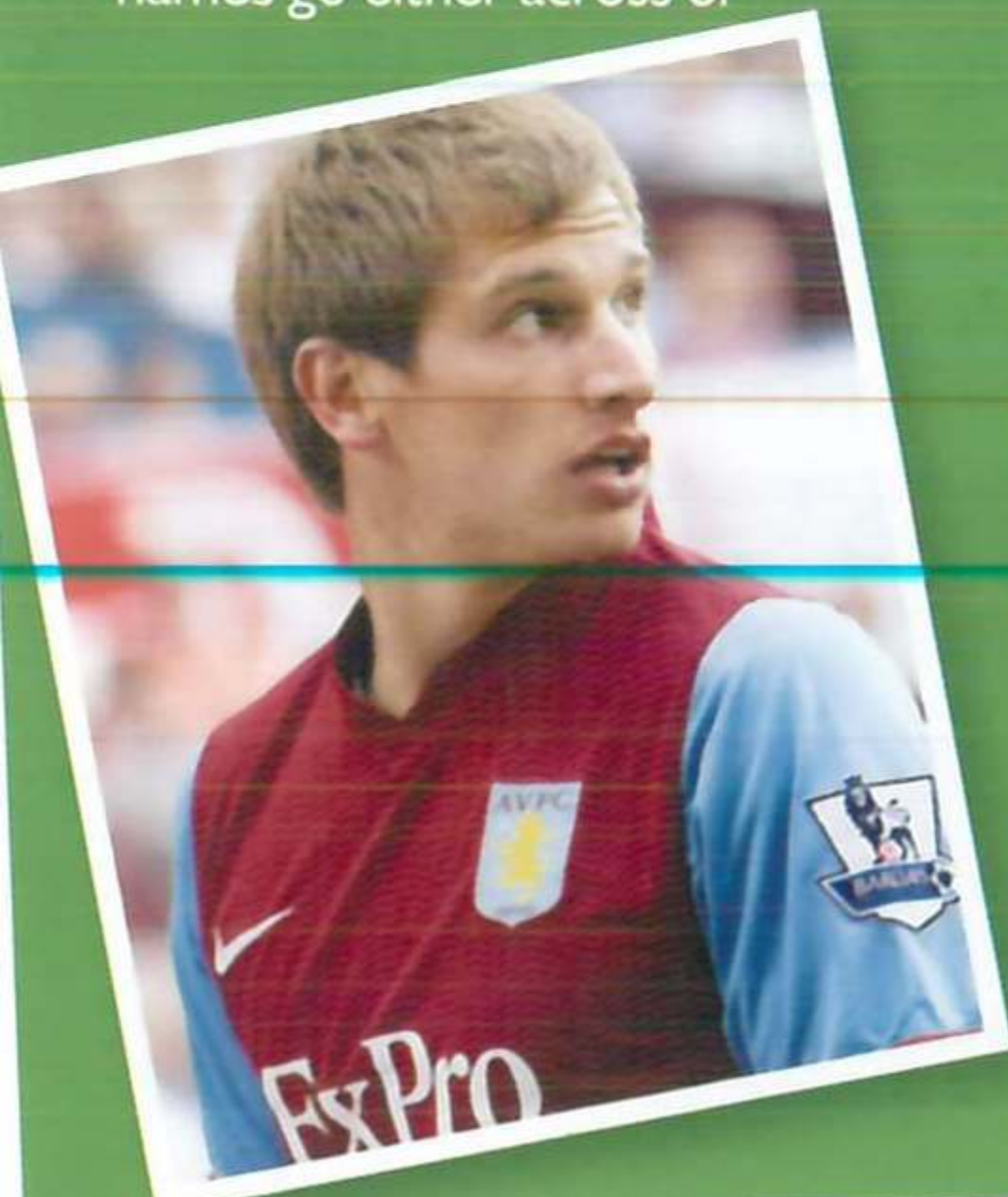
## FIND THE VILLANS

We have hidden the names of 11 Villa players in this word search, so let's see how many you can find. To keep things simple, the names go either across or

down the grid – so you don't have to contend with any of those awkward upwards, backwards or diagonal solutions!

AGBONLAHOR  
ALBRIGHTON  
GIVEN  
CLARK  
N'ZOGBIA  
BANNAN  
PETROV  
HERD  
WARNOCK  
BAKER  
HUTTON

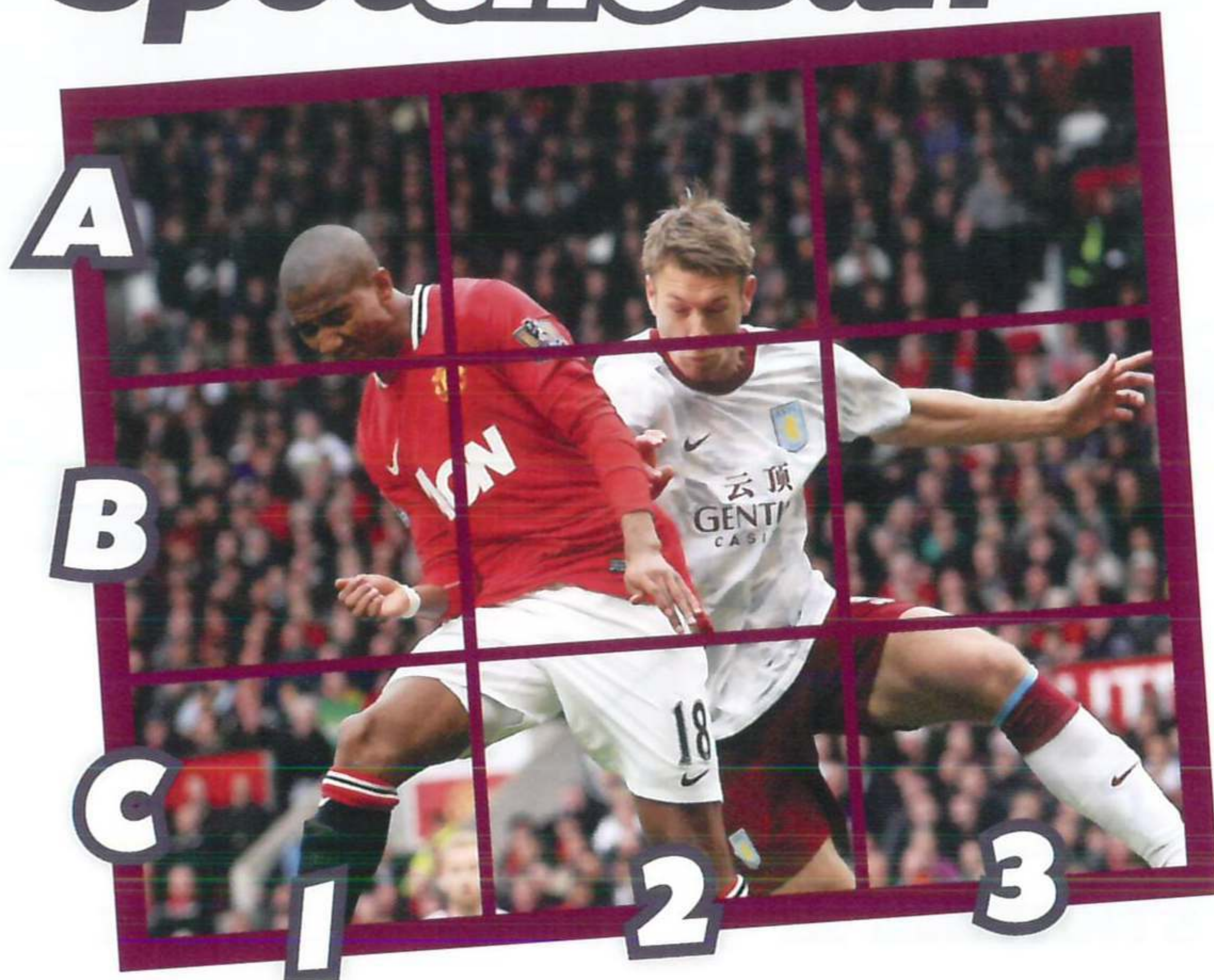
You will find the solution on page 73



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# Spot the Ball



## Lets face it...

We've incorporated three Villa players into one head. **Can you name them?**



## 3 Questions about..

**GARY GARDNER**



**1** Gary made his debut against which club?  
**A CHELSEA B BRISTOL ROVERS C ARSENAL**

**2** His first starting appearance was against?  
**A MAN CITY B WIGAN ATHLETIC C WOLVES**

**3** **True or false –**  
 Gary's older brother Craig signed for Sunderland when he left Villa?

## JOIN THE CLUB!!!



If you're 14 or under, why not join JV Life - the cool club for young Villans.

There are two levels of membership – a free online e-membership and a full membership, which offers you some amazing gifts.

Full JV-Life members receive some great offers in the post, and there are also some brilliant benefits. New members receive the following items in a welcome pack:

- A welcome letter from Hercules
- An exclusive watch
- An official JV-Life certificate

- A membership card
- Superhero's wristband – as worn by Hercules, Bella and Chip
- A copy of the JV-Life comic, which is published four times a season

Members also receive a birthday card and Christmas card –and are entitled to 10 per cent off merchandise in the club shop.

All this, plus numerous other benefits, costs just **£19.95** for a whole year – and junior season ticket holders receive complimentary membership!

- To join the club, call the ticket office on **0800 612 0970**

ANSWERS: SPOT THE BALL - A1 - LET'S FACE IT - ANDREAS WEIMANN, CHRIS HERD, SHAY GIVEN, 3 QUESTIONS ABOUT GARY GARDNER - 1. A - CHELSEA; 2. B - WIGAN; 3 - FALSE - CRAIG JOINED BIRMINGHAM CITY BEFORE MOVING TO SUNDERLAND



# MATCH

**BARCLAYS**  
PREMIER LEAGUE



**TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2012**  
**BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE**



## ASTON VILLA



SHAY GIVEN (GK) 01  
ALAN HUTTON 02  
STEPHEN WARNOCK 03  
RICHARD DUNNE 05  
JAMES COLLINS 06  
STEPHEN IRELAND 07  
DARREN BENT 09  
CHARLES N'ZOGBIA 10  
GABRIEL AGBONLAHOR 11  
MARC ALBRIGHTON 12  
NATHAN DELFOUNESO 14  
FABIAN DELPH 16  
JEAN II MAKOUN 17  
EMILE HESKEY 18  
STILIYAN PETROV 19  
CIARAN CLARK 21  
BRAD GUZAN (GK) 22  
CARLOS CUELLAR 24  
BARRY BANNAN 25  
ANDREAS WEIMANN 26  
ENDA STEVENS 29  
ERIC LICHAJ 30  
CHRIS HERD 31  
NATHAN BAKER 32  
ANDY MARSHALL (GK) 33  
DANIEL JOHNSON 35  
DERRICK WILLIAMS 37  
GARY GARDNER 38  
SAMIR CARRUTHERS 40  
JACK GREALISH 41

### STARTING XI

### SUBS

### TIME

### SCORERS



# FACTS

RESULT \_\_\_\_\_ HALF-TIME SCORE \_\_\_\_\_ ATT. \_\_\_\_\_

MY MAN OF THE MATCH \_\_\_\_\_

REFEREE \_\_\_\_\_



## STARTING XI

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## BOLTON WANDERERS



- 1 ADAM BOGDAN (GK)
- 2 GRETAR RAFN STEINSSON
- 3 MARCOS ALONSO
- 6 FABRICE MUAMBA
- 7 CHRIS EAGLES
- 8 STUART HOLDEN
- 9 TUNCAY SANLI
- 10 MARTIN PETROV
- 11 RICARDO GARDNER
- 12 ZAT KNIGHT
- 14 KEVIN DAVIES
- 15 TYRONE MEARS
- 16 MARK DAVIES
- 17 IVAN KLASNIC
- 18 SAMUEL RICKETTS
- 19 NIGEL REO-COKER
- 20 ROBBIE BLAKE
- 21 DARREN PRATLEY
- 22 JUSSI JAASKELAINEN (GK)
- 24 DAVID NGOG
- 25 DEDRYCK BOYATA
- 26 ROB LAINTON (GK)
- 27 CHUNG-YONG LEE
- 28 GAEL KAKUTA
- 29 MARVIN SORDELL
- 30 RYO MIYAICHI
- 31 DAVID WHEATER
- 32 TIM REAM

## SCORERS

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|-------|-------|
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| _____ | _____ |



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# VILLA IN THE COMMUNITY

## SUPPORTING A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

Villa are using tonight's game to show their support for the Level Playing Field campaign.

The Level Playing Field weeks of action are currently taking place and Villa have been using the campaign to highlight the work the club carries out with disabled supporters.

It is also an opportunity to remind fans that disability abuse won't be tolerated on the terraces at Villa Park.

A lot of positive work to support Level Playing Field has been going on at sports organisations up and down the country, with Villa strongly involved in the campaign.

Pupils from Langley School in Sutton Coldfield came into Villa



Park recently for a special training session in the Indoor Academy.

They are set to take on Springfield House School from Knowle in the final of the Villa Special Needs Cup at half-time during tonight's match.

The Aston Villa Disabled Supporters (AViDS) group will also be conducting a flag parade at tonight's match.

AViDS are looking to recruit new members. Email [tcraythorne.avids@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tcraythorne.avids@hotmail.co.uk) or call 01527 894756 for a membership form.

Villa's support for disabled football fits under the Villa In Harmony initiative as the club continues to promote equality for all and ensure Villa Park is a welcoming place for everyone.

## KIT BOOST FOR PUNJAB KIDS

Some disadvantaged children in the Indian town of Punjab had a welcome surprise courtesy of a member of Villa's staff.

Community relationship manager Ravi Masih set off for a recent trip to India armed with Villa shirts and merchandise to hand to the children as gifts.

The claret and blue gear had been donated by Villa's head of merchandising John Greenfield.

As well as being kitted out in the club colours, the youngsters were also excited to see some of Ravi's photos of Villa Park.

"The boys were so thrilled to get the items that they found a football



and came knocking on my relatives' door to ask me to play with them," said Ravi.

"I think they are now all Villa fans!"



## CREATING CHANCES



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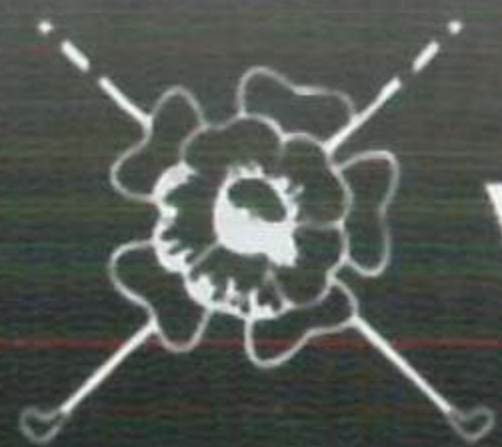
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# RESERVES/YOUTH

ALL THE SECOND STRING AND ACADEMY NEWS

## WILLIAMS WINNING WAY



Derrick Williams has had plenty of positives to reflect on since joining Villa as an academy scholar.

The 19-year-old recently penned a new deal to keep him at Villa until the end of next season.

An FA Youth Cup finalist in his first year, a Barclays Premier Academy League winner in his second, the Irish defender has used season three to add another medal to his collection and make significant steps towards Villa's first team.

Williams, who hails from Tramore in the Republic of Ireland, received his first team squad number this term and has been named on the bench three times in the Barclays Premier League.

It came on the back of some impressive performances in the title-winning Reserve League South campaign and in the inaugural NextGen Series competition, which saw Villa's young guns tackle their contemporaries from some of Europe's top clubs.

"The NextGen Series was a great experience and we did well to get that far," said Williams.

"But every game playing in the reserve league was great too especially as a lot of us have been together through the academy.

"It was tough this season with a lot of big games.

"But we beat most of the top teams like Arsenal and Chelsea so I think we deserved it.

"It is great to go on and win the reserve league, especially after winning the youth league last season as well."

Williams is hoping these early successes in his fledgling career are a sign of things to come.

The 19-year-old is thankful to the likes of Kevin MacDonald, Sean Verity and Tony McAndrew for boosting his progress.

"I was on the bench for the first team a few times so it has been really good," he added.

"If you work hard the manager will

### FIXTURES & RESULTS

#### RESERVES

|        |   |        |            |     |
|--------|---|--------|------------|-----|
| MAR 12 | H | 7.00PM | NORWICH    | 2-0 |
| MAR 22 | A | 7.00PM | MAN UTD    | 1-3 |
| APR 2  | H | 7.00PM | LIVERPOOL  | 1-4 |
| APR 10 | A | 2.00PM | SUNDERLAND | 2-0 |
| APR 25 | A | 7.00PM | FULHAM     |     |

#### ACADEMY

|        |   |         |            |     |
|--------|---|---------|------------|-----|
| MAR 10 | A | 11.00AM | ARSENAL    | 1-2 |
| MAR 18 | H | 12.00PM | C.PALACE   | 2-2 |
| MAR 31 | A | 11.00AM | CHELSEA    | 0-0 |
| APR 21 | H | 11.00AM | PORTSMOUTH | 4-0 |
| APR 28 | H | TBC     | TOTTENHAM  |     |

give you the chance.

"Everything goes down to the coaches, they work hard for us and the stuff they do behind the scenes has been fantastic."





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**ON** GAME  
WITH THE  
**REF**  
WITH EACH  
**OTHER**





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## END-OF-SEASON DINNER



The end-of-season dinner is one of the biggest events on Villa's social calendar.

Book your place now for an evening of glitz and glamour, where guests will enjoy a superb dinner prepared by our award-winning chefs.

Club officials, coaches and players will be in attendance and there will be entertainment

throughout the evening as well the presentations.

This year's event takes place in the Holte Suite on Monday 30th April.

The standard package is £950 (plus VAT) for a table of 10 or £99 for a single ticket, while the premium package for a table of 10 is £1,000 (plus VAT).

For more information or to book call 0800 612 0960 (option 1).

## EURO FEVER WITH SUPER SCREENINGS

Join us at Villa Park as England go in search of European glory this summer.

The Three Lions take on France, Sweden and Ukraine in the group stages of the tournament, held in Ukraine and Poland.

You can watch all three matches in B6 as we host screenings in the 1874 Suite of Villa Park.

Mingle with your mates, cheer on England and have a thoroughly great day in the process.

View the trio of games on our big screen, located in the pitch-view room and enjoy a pie and a pint, too.

They'll also be former player appearances for every match and betting facilities so you can have a friendly wager.

The cost is £10, including entry, pie and pint.

Call 0800 612 0950 to book your place.

There are also corporate options available, should you wish to host a private screening with your company.

Contact 0800 612 0960 (option 2).

## IN THE SWING WITH GOLF DAY

The renowned Villa Golf Day and celebratory dinner are taking place at the Belfry on Tuesday 8th May.

Enter your team now and play alongside Villa stars past and present on the famous Brabazon course.

There will be prizes awarded for the longest drive and nearest the pin, while a four-course dinner will follow the day's golf action.

It costs £925 (plus VAT) to enter your team.

To book call 0800 612 0960 (option 1).





# (DIVISION) THREE STEPS TO HEAVEN

**Exactly 40 years ago, Villa began their climb back to the top. On Monday 24th April 1972, Vic Crowe's team clinched promotion from the old Third Division with a 1-1 draw at Mansfield Town. Lifelong Villa fan Ian Checkley recalls some of the highlights from that incredible title-winning campaign.**

## WE CAN WORK IT OUT

Promotion to the Second Division became a mathematical certainty thanks to Geoff Vowden's goal at Mansfield, although Villa had all but finished the job when Charlie Aitken's goal secured a 1-0 win at Bradford City two days earlier.

The win at Valley Parade meant that only freak results over the final games could prevent Villa from going up.

The title was clinched with a 5-1 Villa Park victory over Torquay United, our biggest home win of the season being secured by Vowden (2), Andy Lochhead, Brian Little and an own goal.

Vowden is pictured celebrating Villa's equaliser in the famous 2-1 victory over title rivals Bournemouth in February, watched by what was then a record Third Division crowd of 48,110.

## OPENING THE FLOODGATES

Plymouth Argyle were our first opponents in that historic season – but the match was ruined by a thunderstorm



which left the pitch saturated and areas around Villa Park flooded. Despite the appalling conditions, which made good football impossible, Villa won 3-1 with goals from Geoff Vowden, Pat McMahon and a Willie Anderson penalty. Unfortunately, McMahon (pictured) suffered a dislocated ankle which kept him out of action for months.

## WE TOLD 'EM OLDHAM

The division's biggest away win of the season was Villa's 6-0 romp at Oldham



in November. Andy Lochhead (below) led the way with a hat-trick, Bruce Rioch netted twice and Willie Anderson was also on target.

Jimmy Cumbes made his debut.

## VILLA PARK FORTRESS

Not surprisingly, Villa won the most games in Division Three that season, recording victories in 32 of their 46 fixtures. They also scored the most goals – 85 – and conceded the least (32). Apart from conceding only 22 away goals, they also conceded by far the lowest number at home an awesome figure of 10. Only eight visiting teams scored at Villa Park in league games.



## KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

When Villa beat Blackburn Rovers 4-1 at home in October, all the goals were scored before half-time – and two of them came from an unlikely source.

With his older brother Bruce suspended, 21-year-old Neil Rioch (above) made a rare first team appearance and netted a brace. Chico Hamilton and Willie Anderson were also on target, with Tony Field replying for the visitors.

The match was also notable for Brian Little's debut.



after skipper Bruce Rioch had been presented with the championship trophy.



## PLEASED TO MEET YOU...

Villa have only ever played Rochdale in the old Third Division – a total of just four games.

Honours were even against Rochdale in 1971-72, goals from Andy Lochhead and Ray Graydon clinching a 2-0 Villa home win in August, and Rochdale taking revenge with a 1-0 success at Spotland in January.

## GRAYDON THE SHAY-MAN

Halifax Town offered stubborn resistance in both games against Villa – but had no answer to winger Ray Graydon (below). The matches at both The Shay in September and Villa Park on New Year's Day ended 1-0 to the boys in claret and blue, with Graydon hitting the winner on each occasion.



## WREXHAM REPLAYS

Villa met Wrexham a total of five times in the title-winning season. They won both league games 2-0 but needed two replays before knocking the Welsh club out of the League Cup with a 4-3 success at The Hawthorns.

## DUKES OF YORK

Villa's first-ever league meeting with York City took place at Villa Park in February 1972, a Willie Anderson penalty clinching a 1-0 win. Bruce Rioch (right) netted the only goal when Villa won the return match by the same score-line at Bootham Crescent in April.



## STUBBORN SADDLERS

Mansfield Town and Walsall were the only teams Villa failed to score against at home in the league – and the Stags and the Saddlers were also the only teams to avoid defeat at the hands of the champions.

Mansfield were also one of only two teams to win at Villa Park, coming out on top 1-0 in September. Rotherham United were the others, winning 2-1 here the following month.

## MASSES IN THE MEADOW

When Villa won 3-0 away to Notts County in March 1972 the match was played in front of 34,208 – the biggest crowd at Meadow Lane for 25 years.

## PROFIT-SHARING SCHEME!

Villa's success was very much a profit-sharing exercise. Fifteen of our 23 opponents recorded their biggest home attendance of the season when the boys in claret and blue were the visitors.

## PLUCKED BY THE CHERRIES

Villa had never faced Bournemouth before the 1971-72 campaign – and the first meeting was one we would prefer to forget. Vic Crowe's men were totally outplayed at Dean Court by the leaders in October, going down 3-0, so it was a case of being plucked by the Cherries. The attendance was 20,305 – Bournemouth's biggest crowd for a decade.

But that was nothing compared with the 48,110 who witnessed the return match at Villa Park the following February. The crowd – then a record for the Third Division – inspired leaders Villa to a 2-1 win over second-placed Bournemouth with goals from Geoff Vowden and Andy Lochhead.

## NOTHING CROOKED...

Chesterfield have the distinction of being Villa's first and last opponents in the old Third Division. Vic Crowe's men were 3-2 winners at Saltergate on the opening day of the 1970-71 campaign – and beat the Spireites 1-0 at Villa Park on the final day of the title-winning season. A crowd of 45,714 saw Ian Ross (top middle) score the only goal





Final Home Game

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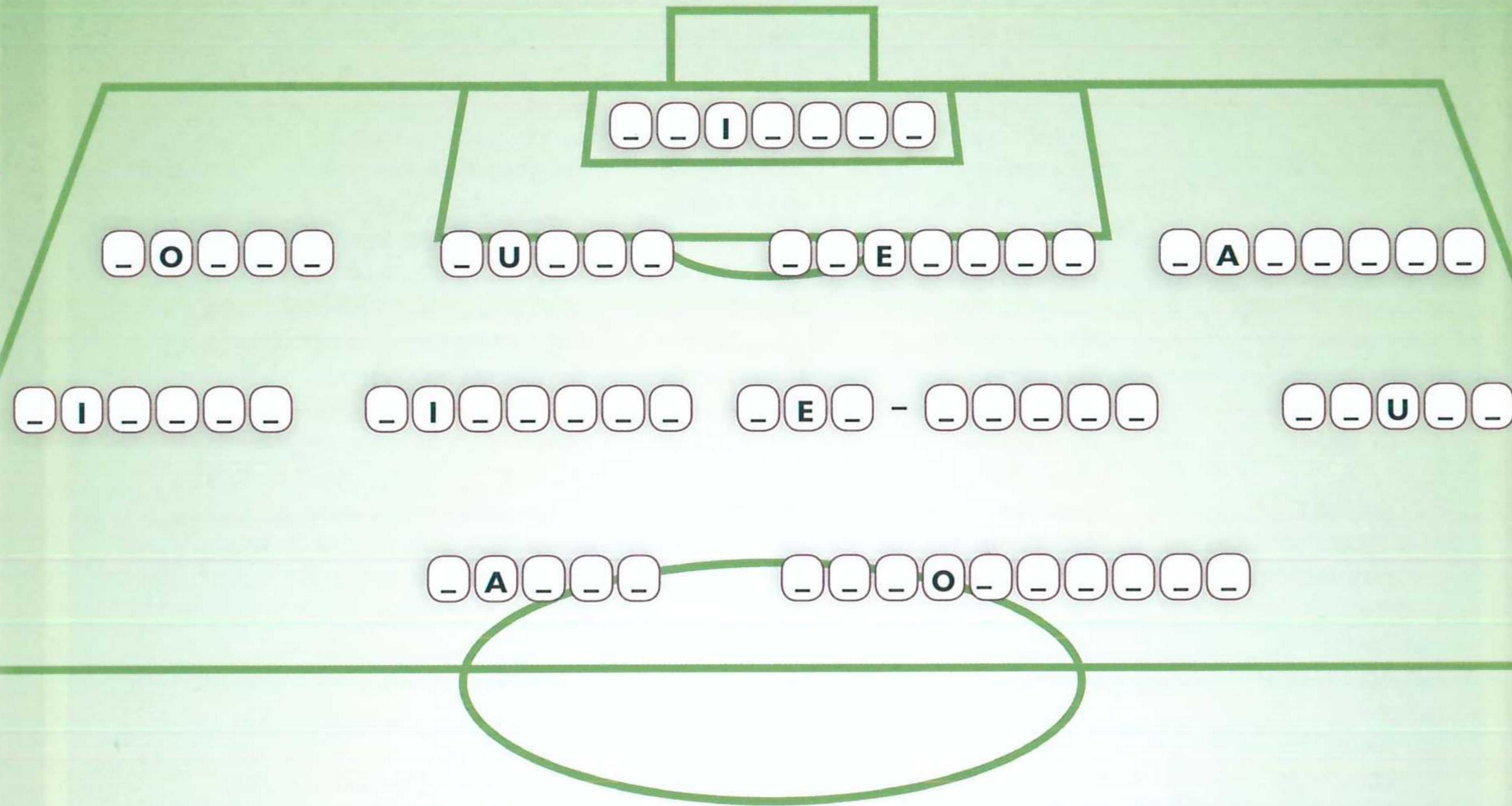
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# NAME THAT TEAM

CAN YOU NAME THE VILLA LINE-UP FROM THIS CLASSIC GAME AGAINST BOLTON?

**RESULT:**  
Villa 5 Bolton 1  
**COMPETITION:**  
Barclays Premier League  
**VENUE:** Villa Park  
**DATE:** Saturday 7th  
November, 2009



NAME THAT TEAM ANSWERS (4-4-2) – Friedel, Young (L), Dunne, Cuellar, Warnock, Milner, Sidwell, Reo-Coker, Young (A), Carew, Agbonlahor.

## ODDSPOT

Villa's 3-2 home victory over Bolton in October 2001 sent Villa soaring to the top of the Premiership – and no-one was flying higher than our very own Angel.

Colombian striker Juan Pablo Angel was on target twice in a thrilling victory against a Trotters outfit who had beaten Manchester United at Old Trafford the previous weekend.

It looked bleak for John



Gregory's men when former Walsall striker Michael Ricketts fired Bolton into a second-minute lead, but Angel headed a 13th-minute equaliser before Darius Vassell put Villa in front just before half-time.

Angel added a third goal from the penalty spot a minute after the interval, although there were a few anxious moments after Ricketts netted his second goal.

## COVER STORY

### SHOOT

10<sup>th</sup> September 1994

Let's hope it's not too long before we are the subject of more headlines like this on football magazines. This edition of Shoot looked ahead to Villa's UEFA Cup-tie against Inter Milan with a feature on John Fashanu. Sadly, Fash was forced to retire at the end of the season.





# LIONS' ROLL CALL

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# LIONS' DEN



Calling all Lions Clubs representatives - send your stories and photos to:

ALAN.PERRINS@AVFC.CO.UK



NICKLAS (FOURTH FROM LEFT) SETS OUT FOR LIVERPOOL WITH THE SUTTON LIONS

## VIKING AND VILLAN

*Nicklas Lind Hansen, a member of the Danish Lions, reflects on a special time in the company of Villans...*

During the preparation for my Master's thesis in International Business Communication at the University of Southern Denmark, I started thinking: What if I could include my passion for Aston Villa in this project?

So I recently spent 10 days in and around the club, spending most of my time in the Marketing & Communications department at Villa Park. It was an amazing experience, where I have been given the opportunity to get a glimpse behind the scenes of the work and daily routines at the club.

I was also given the opportunity to talk to fans – and one of the highlights of my visit was the away trip with fellow Lions from Sutton Coldfield to Liverpool, where Villa managed to draw at a stadium where nothing comes for free.

The Villa supporters also made for a spectacular performance by out-singing the home crowd and creating an intense and supportive atmosphere for both themselves and for the players.

A proper away trip also includes a stop by a local pub – just to get your voice warmed up for the game ahead, of course – so the Sutton Lions called in at a pub 20 miles outside Liverpool. Many stories were shared of how the fan culture is different here to on the continent.

Another difference, which quickly became apparent while in the pub, was the amount of alcohol being

consumed prior to the game! In the time I enjoyed one pint, the lad next to me had managed to drink five – and as the beer was consumed the stories got more and more exciting. All in all it made for a fantastic day.

My stay also included two games at Villa Park – the reserves' clash against Liverpool and the Barclays Premier League fixture against Stoke City. That spectacular goal by Andreas Weimann on Easter Monday was a very special moment.

I would like to thank all the people I have met and talked to during my time here and for taking me

in and allowing me to experience the passion we all share for the club. I look forward to seeing you again. A project may be temporary, but a love is forever. Up the Villa!

## STEPHEN TOPS THE POLL

Stephen Ireland was voted Lions Clubs' player of the month for March and received his award before our home match against Stoke City from Pauline Knibb of the Knowle & Dorridge branch.

The Irish midfielder's success took him into the lead in the race for the season-long Terrace Trophy crown.



A VILLA FAN'S VIEW OF THE ANFIELD ACTION





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# ALL KITTED OUT

**HOME 2011-12**  
**DESIGN: NIKE**  
**SPONSOR: GENTING CASINOS**

Malaysian company Genting Casinos became the club's newest shirt sponsor at the start of the 2011-12 season – a move helped to raise Villa's profile in the Far East. The current jersey expands on the club's chequerboard design and incorporates it into a subtle shadow effect on the shirt fabric. A simple blue wrap-over crew neck tops off the jersey.

The biggest change with the strip comes from the disappearance of Villa's regular sky blue or claret socks – replaced now with a rather daring black pair (trimmed with the club's traditional colours though) in a throwback to the 1920s-1950s era when the club wore a similar design.

**WORN IN:** Wins for Alex McLeish's team against Blackburn Rovers (3-1) and Norwich City (3-2).

**WORN BY:** Stiliyan Petrov, Andreas Weimann, Alan Hutton.



## THIRD IN THE THIRD...

Villa have gone top of the Premier League by beating Bolton, as you will discover on page 49. But the clubs have also met in more modest circumstances.

In 1971-72 they faced each other in the old Third Division, with honours even. Although Villa went on to win the title, Vic Crowe's men suffered their first defeat of the season at Burnden Park.

Roger Hunt, who had helped England to World Cup glory just over five years earlier, opened the scoring that September afternoon, with John Byrom hitting the other goal in a 2-0 Bolton victory.

At least Villa made amends when the teams met again at



Villa Park just before Christmas. The Trotters achieved the rare feat of being one of only two visiting teams to score more than once here in a league fixture, but that wasn't enough to prevent a 3-2 Villa win which left us in third place behind Notts County and Bournemouth.

Ian Seddon gave the visitors

an 11th-minute lead but just past the half-hour mark Andy Lochhead grabbed the equaliser – and a minute later Ray Graydon put Villa ahead.

Although Alan Waldron brought the scores level just before half-time, Charlie Aitken claimed the winner with a superb header 16 minutes from the end.





ENDS 31.05.12

Supporters can now purchase their season cards for 2012-13 and full details of the season card package are available exclusively on [www.avfc.co.uk](http://www.avfc.co.uk).

Anyone choosing to purchase their seats early will benefit from:

### EARLYBIRD PRICE FREEZE

Anyone who purchases their seat before 1st June can guarantee **THE** best value as they will benefit from a price freeze... at 2011-12 season prices.

### INTEREST-FREE PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The introduction of extended payment terms to spread the cost of your season card was greeted warmly by our season card holders last season but this season we've made it even better! All Zebra Finance applicants will be able to pay for

# SEASON TICKETS 2012-13

their season card(s) **INTEREST FREE** and from March, season card holders will be able to spread the cost of their season card across a maximum of nine months. Don't delay, though, because the longer you wait, the fewer monthly instalments you'll be able to pay in.

### WELCOME PACK

Last season saw the introduction of a raft of benefits which season ticket holders used in their droves. With Free AVTV, free pies, drinks and discounts galore, last season's season card package provided the best value ever at Villa Park...and it's back bigger-and-better than ever. What's more, season card holders will continue to be entered into **EXCLUSIVE** draws with the chances to win pitch-side visits and tours of Bodymoor Heath.

There will be added incentive to buy quickly when supporters who purchase their season seat before 1st June will be entered into a draw to join the first team on our pre-season tour!

### TRY IT, LIKE IT!

Considering relocating to another area of the ground for the 2012-13 season?

Don't want to lose your current seat but might be ready for a change? Then why not 'Try It, Like It'? For the Stoke City and Sunderland fixtures, Aston Villa are offering current season card holders the opportunity to try another area of the ground...**ABSOLUTELY FREE!**

### NEW VALUE AREA

The club are also pleased to announce that 2,000 seats within the stadium have been re-graded with adult prices starting at just £295. An initial 1,000 seats will be made available to current season card holders with new purchasers benefitting from an additional release of 1,000 value seats.

So whether you're in the North Stand but have always wondered what it might be like to sit in the Doug Ellis Stand or you are a family group in the Holte End who would love to check out the Family Stand, why not 'Try It, Like It'?

### WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Full details of the season card 2012-13 package are available exclusively on [www.avfc.co.uk/seasontickets](http://www.avfc.co.uk/seasontickets) so don't forget to check the official website or call the Ticket Office on **0800 612 0970**



## Season Ticket Prices 2012/13 (Price Freeze) until May 31 2012

|                                  |        |      |      |       |      |      |      |
|----------------------------------|--------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| Standard                         | £580   | £520 | £480 | £405  | £360 | £295 | £405 |
| Under 8                          | £240*  | £160 | £210 | £80   | £80  | £100 | £80  |
| Under 16                         | £240*  | £210 | £210 | £155  | £135 | £100 | £155 |
| Over 65                          | £320** | £280 | £225 | £225  | £360 | £225 | £225 |
| Young Adult/Student/Armed Forces | £400*  | £355 | £360 | £400  | £360 | £295 | £400 |
| Family under 8 †                 | n/a    | n/a  | n/a  | £840  | n/a  | £650 | n/a  |
| Family under 16 ††               | n/a    | n/a  | n/a  | £1000 | n/a  | £695 | n/a  |
| Adult/Junior Combo               | £790   | n/a  | n/a  | n/a   | n/a  | n/a  | n/a  |

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

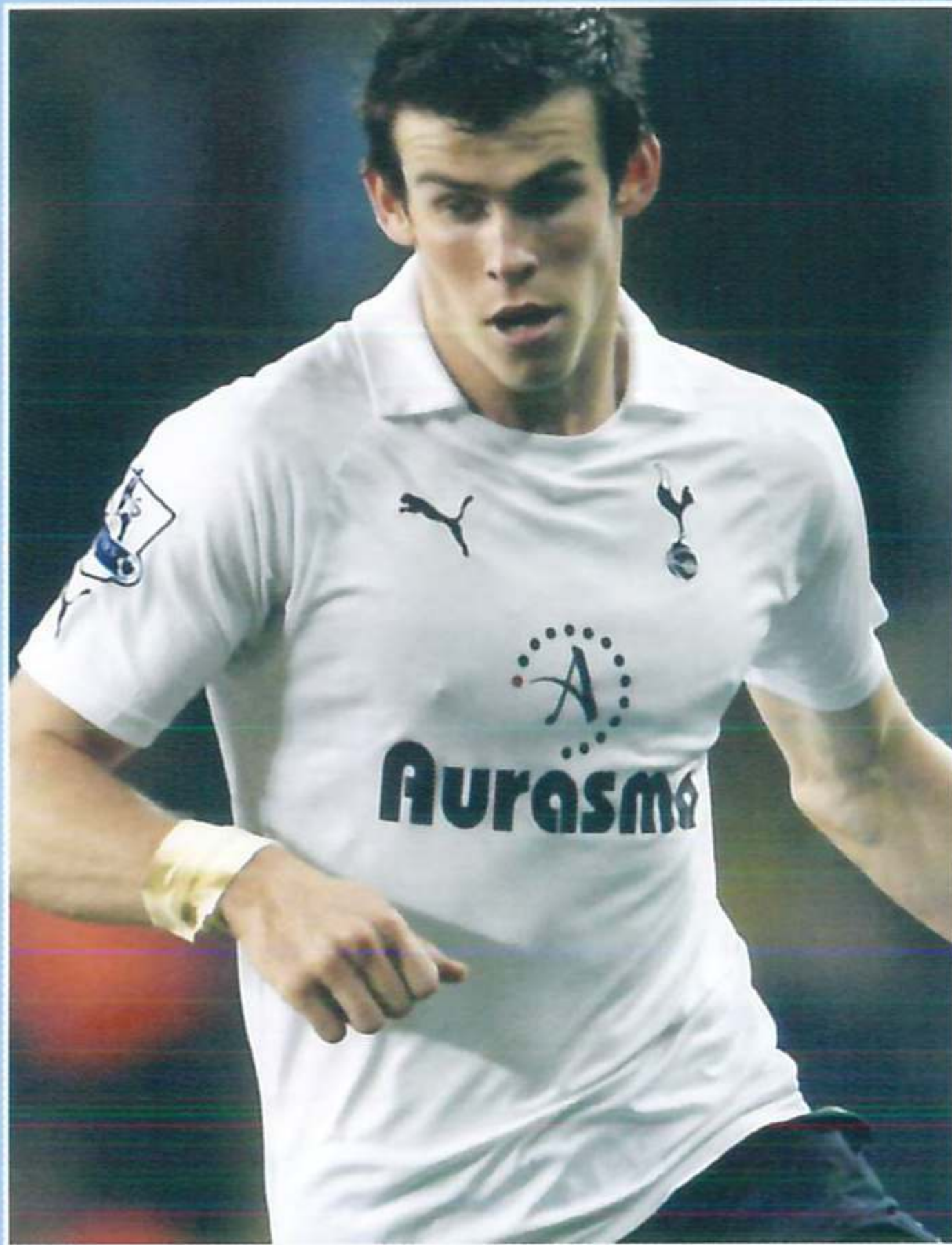
\* Concessionary priced ticket only applies to supporters who have held a consecutive seat in this area since 06/07 season.

\*\* Concessionary priced ticket only applies to supporters who have held a consecutive seat in this area and who were 65 as of 1 September 2006. Disabled prices apply to all areas of the stadium with the exception of premium seating such as B5 or Prepared.

† Ticket for 2 adults & 2 under 8s †† Ticket for 2 adults & 2 under 16s. Please enquire for extra tickets or alternative combinations. All ages as of 1 September 2012. Above stadium plan is for representation purposes only. To determine actual seat prices please contact ticket office.



# NEXT AT HOME: TOTTENHAM



Villa's home game against Tottenham Hotspur is set to be an intriguing one with both teams determined to win points for different reasons.

For Villa it is all about guaranteeing Barclays Premier League safety by securing three points against the north Londoners.

However, Harry Redknapp's side are making a charge for a Champions League spot and they will be looking for three points on Sunday 6th May to enhance their chances.

The crunch top-flight encounter kicks off at 2pm. Villa were well beaten by Spurs in the corresponding fixture at White Hart Lane in November. A first-half double from

Emmanuel Adebayor gave Tottenham a comfortable 2-0 victory.

However, the two sides were much closer last term even if the claret and blues found themselves on the wrong end of two 2-1 scorelines.

On both occasions Rafael van der Vaart scored twice for Tottenham with Marc Albrighton netting for Villa.

Despite emerging as possible title challengers earlier in the campaign, Spurs have had a slight wobble since the turn of the year and they suffered a disappointing 5-1 FA Cup semi-final defeat to Chelsea just over a week ago.

Villa's final home game of the season is one not to be missed.

## HOME GAMES ▼



BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE  
**ASTON VILLA v  
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR**

Sunday 6th May (2.00pm)

Category AA

Ticket prices:

£26 to £47 for adults

£24 to £47 for young adults/students/armed forces

£25 to £47 for over-65s

£20 to £47 for under-16s

ON GENERAL SALE



## AWAY GAMES ▼



BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE  
**WEST BROMWICH ALBION v  
ASTON VILLA**

Saturday 28th April 28th (3.00pm)



BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE  
**NORWICH CITY v VILLA**

Sunday 13th May (3.00pm)

Ticket allocation: 2,450

Ticket prices:

£45 for adults

£35 for over-65s

£25 for under-16s

£15 for under-12s

On sale to season card holders who have attended at least one Premier League away fixture in the 2011-12 season.

Strictly one ticket per client reference

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# Villamedia



We could try telling you what a magical experience it was when Villa legend Ian Taylor and members of the club's staff spent a weekend in Italy as guests of the Latin Lions.

But it would be much easier to merely direct you to a nine-minute video of the event, which can be viewed on AVTV.

Lucy Asplin has captured some evocative images of Venice on film, while Tayls, Lions Clubs liaison officer Alan Perrins and Latin chairman Stefano Armellini talk about the special relationship between Villa and our loyal followers.

Venice with a Villa flavour is well worth a visit.

## WALKING FOR STAN

For another "different" video, check out AVTV's coverage of Sir Ian Botham's walk from The Mailbox to the Clent Hills in aid of Leukemia and Lymphoma research.

He was joined by Villa legend Gordon Cowans for the final part of the challenge and both of them were interviewed by Jack Woodward.

Although "Beefy" is better known for his cricket exploits, the duo reminisced about their football days, Botham having played for Scunthorpe United.



And, needless to say, they also talked about Villa skipper Stiliyan Petrov's battle against acute leukaemia.

## WORD ON THE TWEET

The vibe from Villa's official Twitter page

[www.twitter.com/AVFCOfficial](http://www.twitter.com/AVFCOfficial)

twitter 

Nathaniel Deakin@ndeakin3  
Looking at the selection of @AVFCOfficial goals of the season to pick from. It is very difficult to pick one. I'm torn between about 4 goals.

Lisa Smith@preparedpr  
Just pricing up following @AVFCOfficial to USA in summer #bettergetsaving

Amy Hemming@amyhem88  
Glad to hear that stan petrov was at @AVFCOfficial training ground in good spirits...stay strong captain we love you #playforstan

Joe Whitticase@J\_Whitticase  
@SamirCarruthers is the future of @AVFCOfficial and should be playing every game from now on.

jon grant@jonpgrant  
Had a great day with Jo @AVFCOfficial @AVFCBlog v Man U. We were outclassed, but we still enjoyed the day out and made it onto #skysports!

Gary Blackwood@garyb\_avfc  
We need to build our team around Clark, Bannan, Gardner, Carruthers, Baker and Weimann and Albrighton @AVFCOfficial



# THANKS FOR YOUR SERV

DAVE BRIDGEWATER CONTINUES HIS LOOK AT VILLA MEMORABILIA BY DIGGING OUT THE TESTIMONIAL PROGRAMMES PRODUCED FOR SOME OF OUR BIGGEST STARS

## 1 VIC CROWE, 1963

Vic Crowe narrowly missed out on a place in Villa's Fab 50 post-war players last summer but his contribution to the Villa cause was considerable.

In 1961 the Wales international was captain of the team who became inaugural winners of the League Cup and two years later his 10 years' service were marked by a game between a Birmingham XI and a London XI at Villa Park.

Despite its plain cover and lack of photos,

## 3 BRIAN LITTLE, 1982

It's a very youthful-looking Brian Little who beamed out from the cover of his testimonial programme in May 1982, even though it was 15 months since he learned his career was over because of injury.

Brian's time as one of the most talented players ever to wear claret-and-blue was marked by a game against England. He would, of course, return as manager and lead us to League Cup glory in 1996.

the neat little programme was packed with entertaining articles.

## 2 CHARLIE AITKEN, 1970

The club's record appearance maker was honoured for his first 10 years in 1970 – and was given another testimonial at the end of his marathon career seven years later.

A regular 24-page edition of the Villa News & Record, complete with that season's unusual format of having the team line-ups on the cover, was produced for the 1970 game against Coventry City.

An excellent publication informed us that Charlie had played a total of 391 games for Villa. Little could anyone have realised at the time that he would go on to make it 660.

## 4 ALEX CROPLEY, 1982

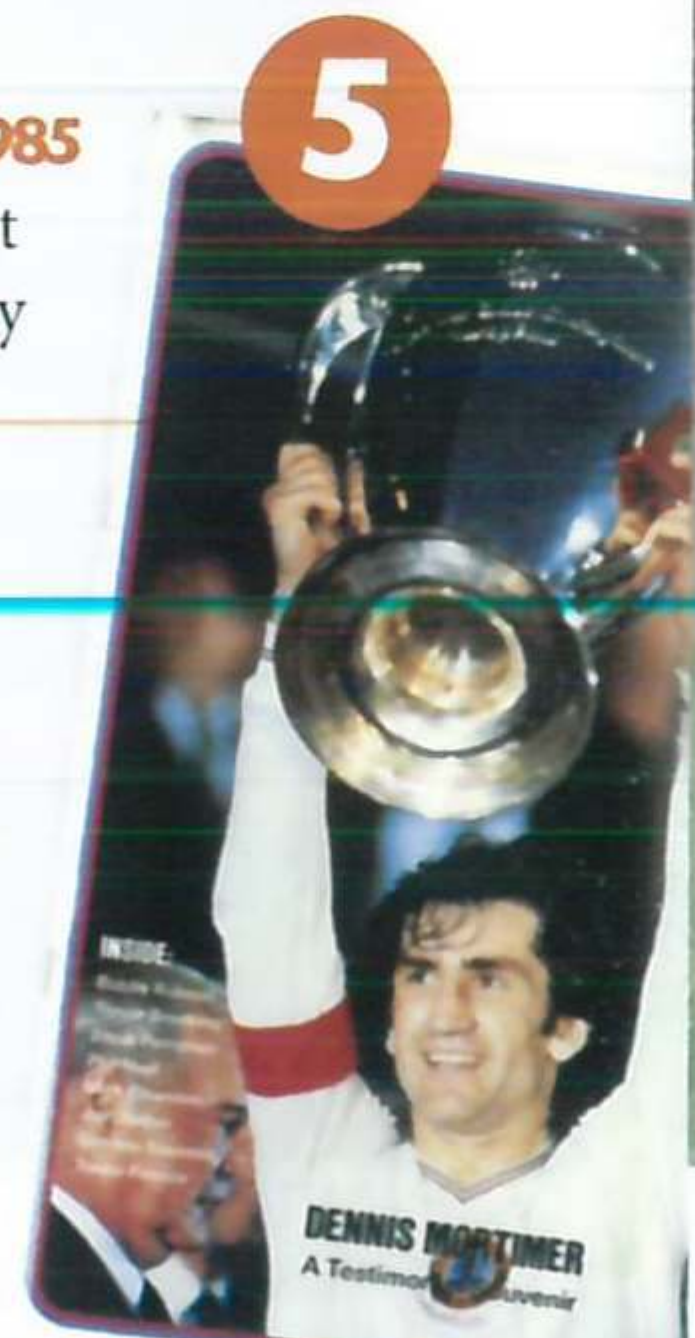
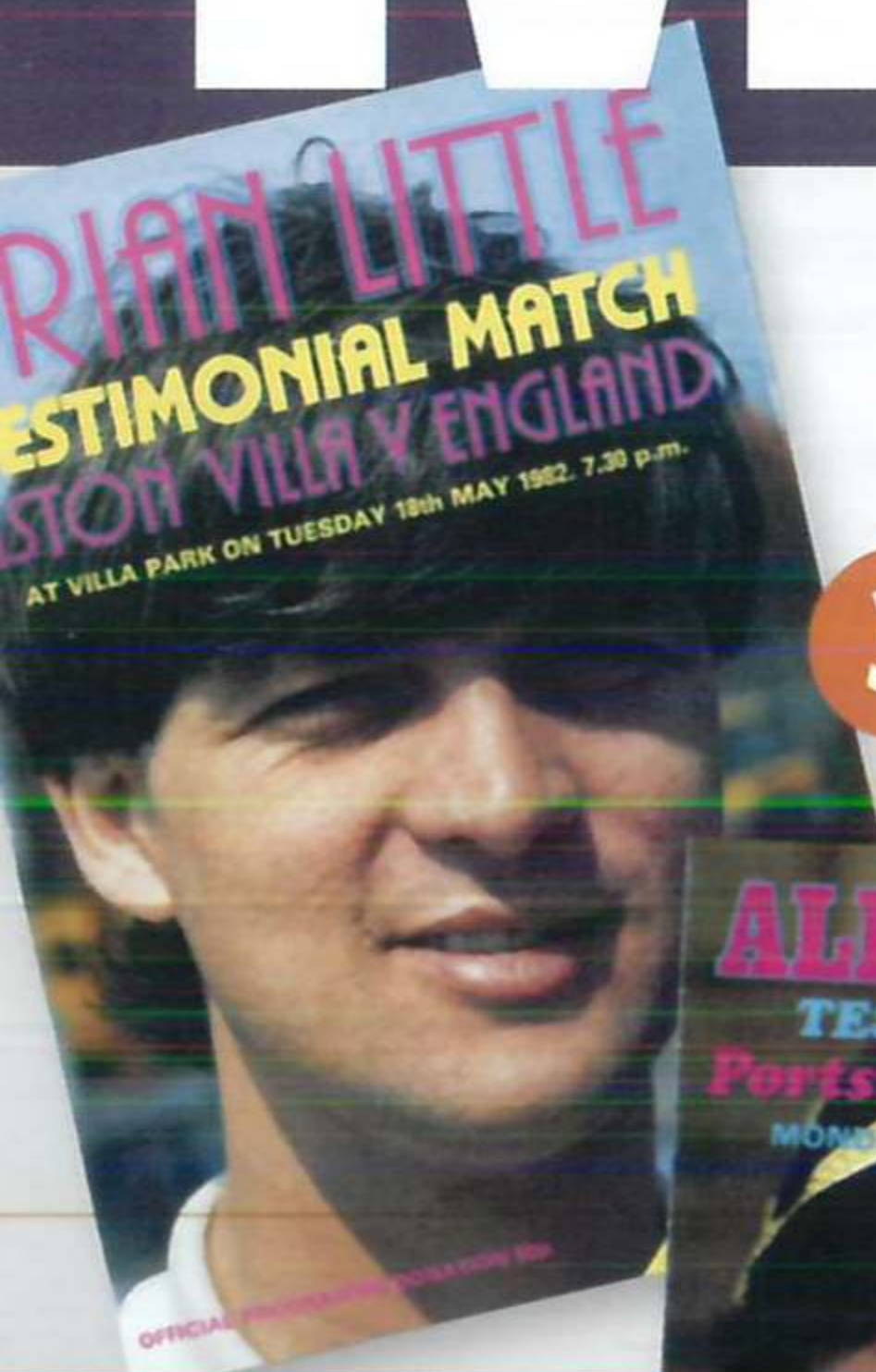
Alex Cropley was another player whose career was cut short by injury, although he moved to Portsmouth before finally hanging up his boots.

The Scottish midfielder's testimonial game, in fact, was staged at Fratton Park, with Villa as the visitors.

## 5 DENNIS MORTIMER, 1985

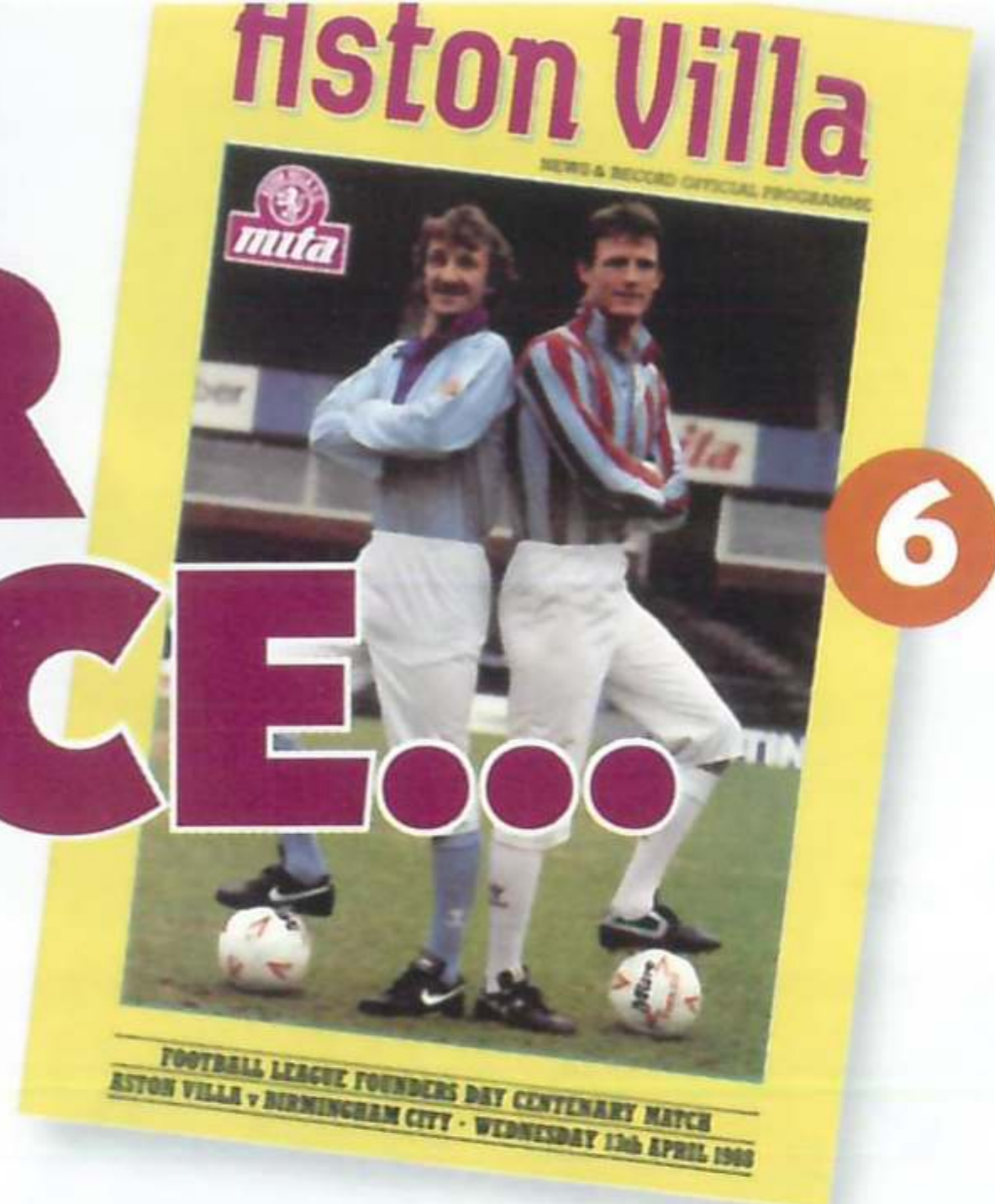
Morty's decade in claret and blue was marked by a game between Villa and an England XI in May 1985.

His testimonial brochure was a magazine-style 52-page publication and the cover, not surprisingly, captured Dennis holding aloft the





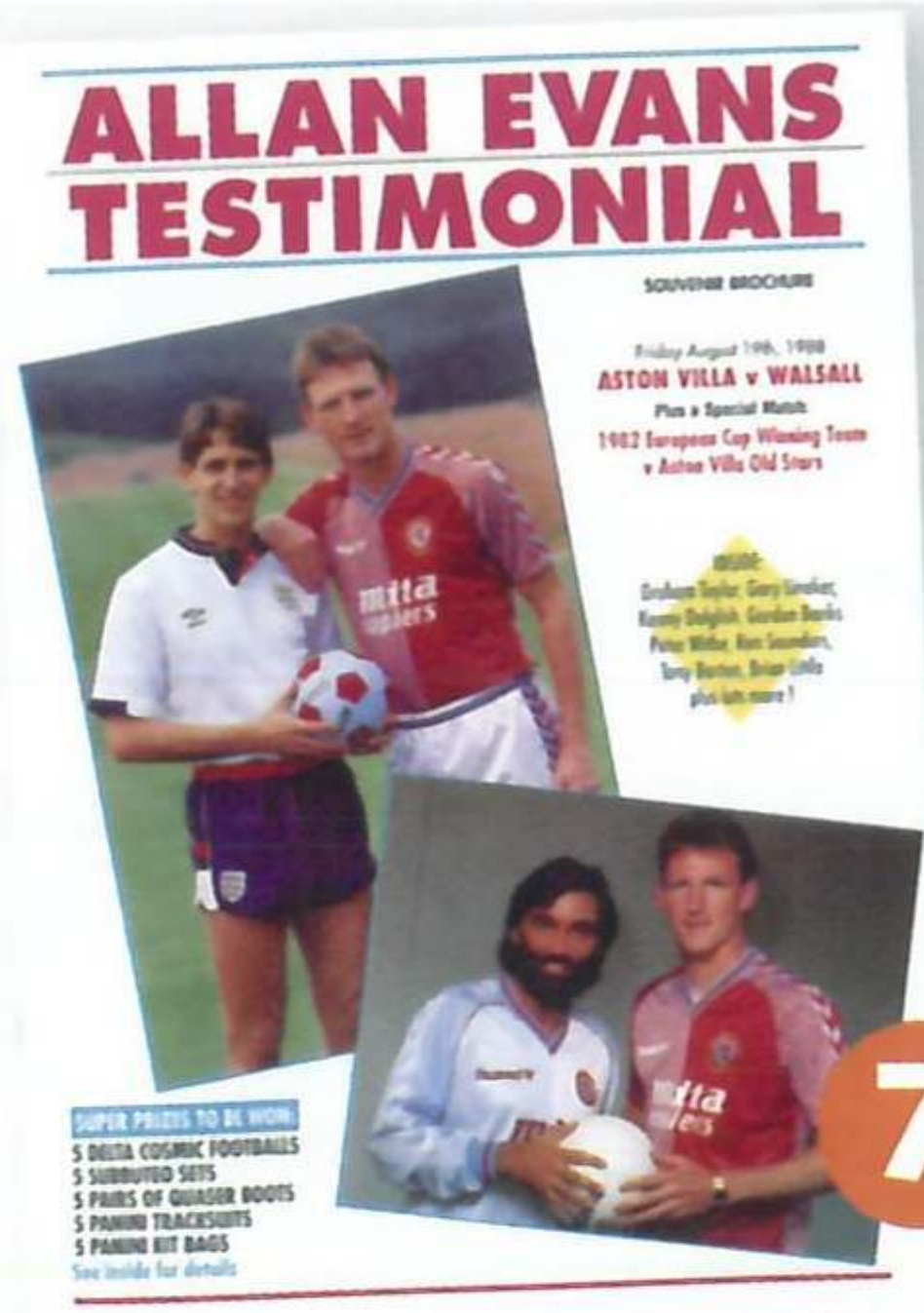
# RICE...



European Cup three years earlier.

Apart from being an inspirational leader on the pitch, Villa's captain was also a keen photographer and one page featured him taking a snap of former manager Ron Saunders on the golf course – and developing a print in his dark room. No digital cameras in those days!

**6 FOUNDERS DAY CENTENARY, 1988**  
Wednesday 18th April 1988 marked



alongside Allan for photos which appeared on the cover of his souvenir brochure.

There was no shortage of praise inside, either, for the Scottish international who had helped Villa to European Cup glory six years earlier. Lineker, Kenny Dalglish and Gordon Banks were among those who sang his praises.

Villa fans, meanwhile, were grateful that Evans had helped the boys in claret and blue to promotion the previous season.



appealing feature of this brochure was a page of photos featuring Tony as a player with Fulham and Portsmouth – plus, of course, as boss of Villa.

**10 PAUL McGRATH, 1995**

Paul McGrath is revered among modern day Villa fans as a god and he was held in similar esteem by the club. He was granted a testimonial game in 1995, even though his service amounted to seven years rather than the customary 10.

# AVILLA

the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Football League, which had been the brainchild of Villa legend William McGregor.

To mark the Founders Day centenary, Villa faced Blues in a friendly at Villa Park and during the extended interval there was a game between former Villa and Birmingham players.

Villa only produced an eight-page programme for the occasion, although it featured a novel cover shot of Des Bremner and Allan Evans in 19th century-style kit.

**7 ALLAN EVANS, 1988**

Two of the world's best players offered their backing when Allan Evans was rewarded with a testimonial game at Villa Park in August 1988.

England striker Gary Lineker and the legendary George Best both posed

**8 PAUL BIRCH, 1991**

This is a poignant one. Who could possibly have imagined, when Villa and Wolves faced each other in Paul Birch's testimonial game, that he would be would not be here less than two decades later.

Paul's passing in February 2009 underlined just how fragile life can be, even for those who earn a living by achieving the highest-possible standards of fitness.

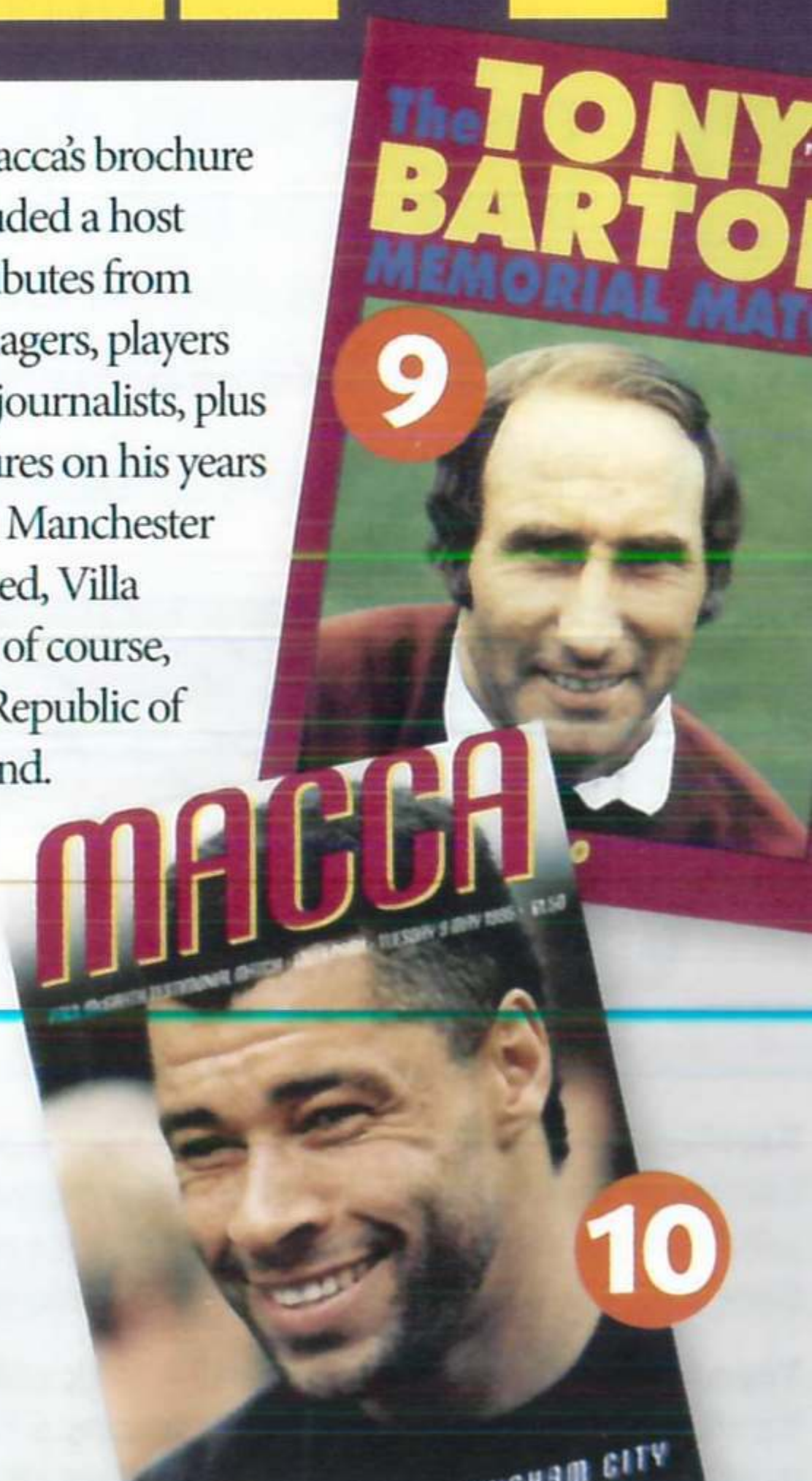
Birchy had moved from Villa Park to Molineux by the time of his testimonial but it was richly deserved for the reliable service he had given us.

**9 TONY BARTON, 1994**

This was a memorial match rather than a testimonial, Villa's European Cup-winning manager having suffered a fatal heart attack the previous year.

Apart from the usual tributes, the most

Macca's brochure included a host of tributes from managers, players and journalists, plus features on his years with Manchester United, Villa and, of course, the Republic of Ireland.







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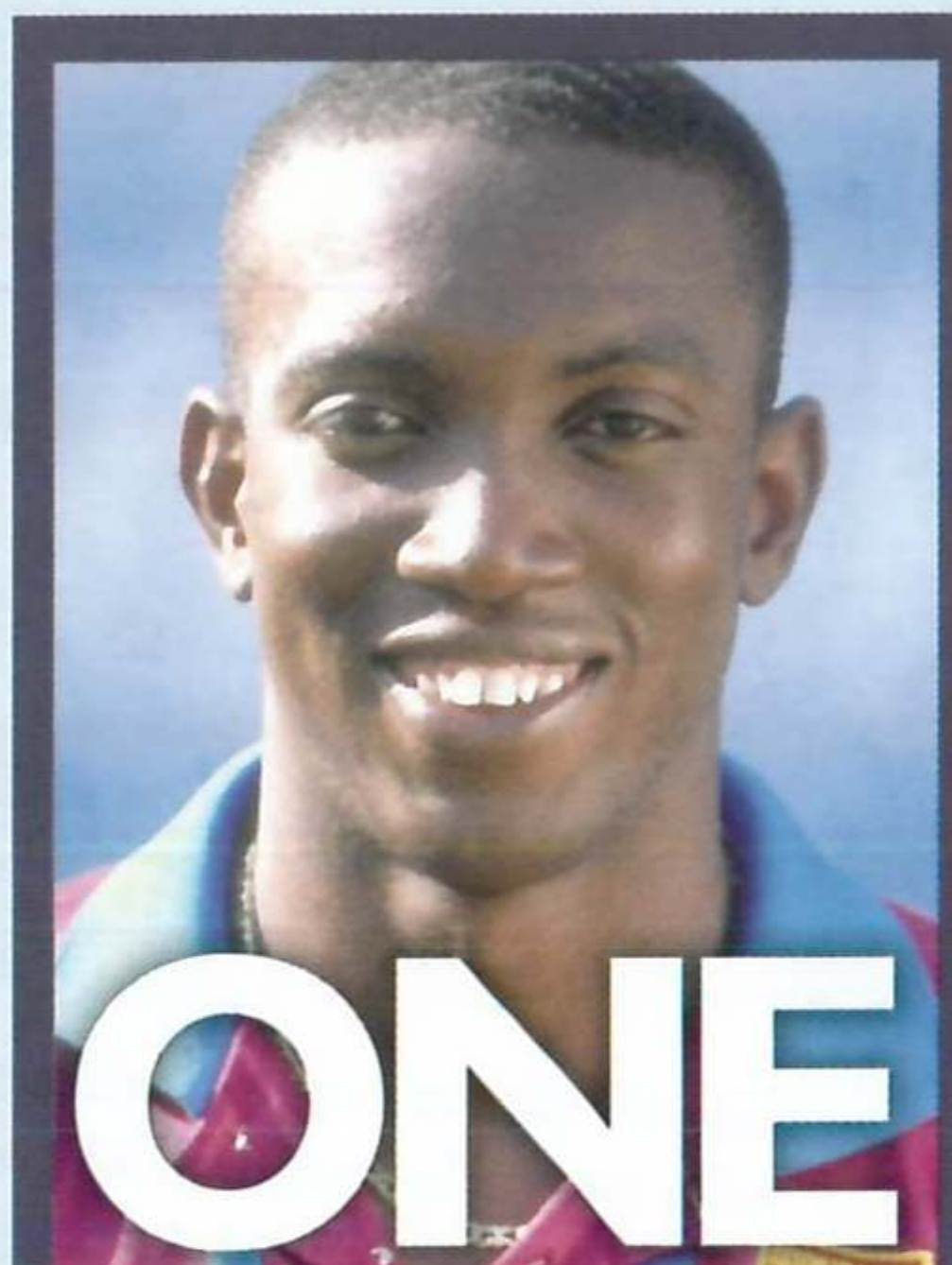
Find out more at [barclaysticketoffice.com](http://barclaysticketoffice.com)



**Barclays Ticket Office:** Terms and conditions apply. For full terms and conditions and a detailed list of prizes visit [www.barclaysticketoffice.com](http://www.barclaysticketoffice.com). Minimum age of entry is 16 years. UK residents only. There is pair of Barclays Premier League tickets available to be won every 90 minutes. Each code is valid for one entry. Winnings limited to once per individual per month and once per household per month. Winners will be notified immediately. Barclays Bank PLC. Registered in England. Registered No. 1026167. Registered Office: 1 Churchill Place, London.

**Topps Terms and Conditions:** 1) A pack of Barclays Topps Cards is awarded for each Eligible Entry. Entrants can receive up to 10 sequential packs of Barclays Topps Cards. Each pack contains 5 Barclays Premier League player cards. With pack 2, you will also receive a box to hold your cards in. Players in each pack of cards are fixed and will not change throughout the 2011/12 season (even if the players stop playing for a particular team). 2) The award is limited to 1 set of 10 packs per entrant and up to 5 sets per household for the duration of the promotion. 3) All Eligible Entries will be offered the chance to receive a pack of Barclays Topps Cards, unless the entrant opts out.





The first Premier League meeting between the clubs was at Villa Park in August 1995 when Dwight Yorke headed home a Savo Milosevic centre on 75 minutes to give Villa a 1-0 win. Villa completed the double over Colin Todd's men at Burden Park the following February, Yorke heading both goals for a 2-0 win.

**4** George Brown scored four times in a 6-1 home win against Bolton in September 1932 with Joe Beresford hitting a brace.

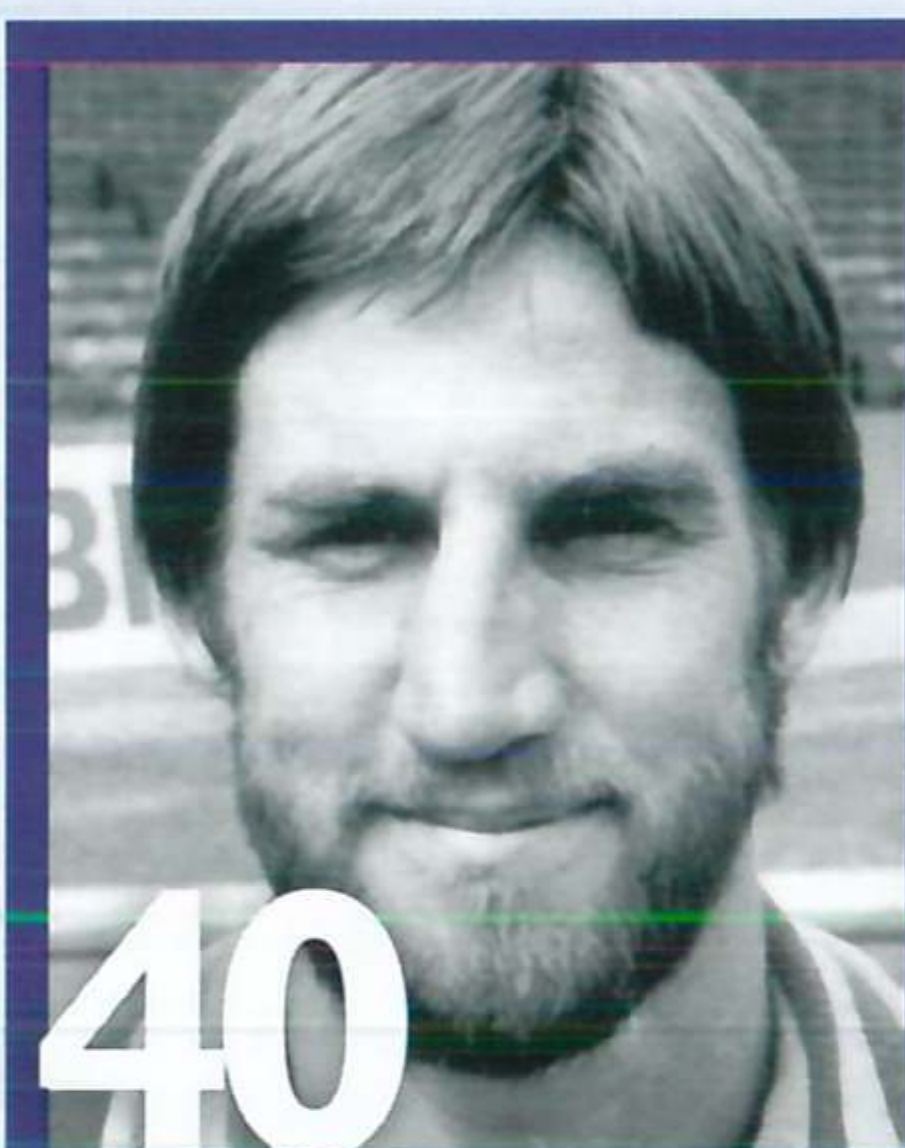
The victory came in a run of 11 consecutive league games without defeat from the start of the season, a Villa record that remained intact until 1998 when John Gregory's men extended the record to 12.

**SIX** Six goals have been scored twice in Premier League meetings between the clubs. Villa won 4-2 here in December 2008 with a double from Gabriel Agbonlahor, a Kevin Davies own goal and a strike from Ashley Young with Johan Elmander and Davies replying for the Trotters. The following November Martin O'Neill's men won 5-1 with five different goalscorers. Young, Agbonlahor, John Carew, James Milner and Carlos Cuellar all hit the target, with Elmander replying for Bolton.

**15** Jimmy Brown became the youngest ever Villa player when he made his League debut at Bolton on 17th September 1969, aged 15 years, 349 days. Brown, who went on to become the youngest Villa first team captain, made 88 appearances for the club before departing for Preston in 1975.



## THE NUMBERS GAME



Forty years ago last month Chris Nicholl made his Villa debut at Rotherham United in the old Third Division following a £75,000 move from Luton Town. Andy Lochhead put Villa ahead on 25 minutes and eight minutes later Ray Graydon intercepted a back-pass to race clear and roll the ball home for a 2-0 win.

**50** Fifty years ago last month Villa travelled to St. Andrews to meet Birmingham

City. Having scored the only goal of the match against Albion three days earlier, Harry Burrows was on target again on 13 minutes to give Villa the lead. Ron Wylie netted on 36 minutes for a 2-0 Villa win. Wilson Briggs made his debut.

**67** Sixty-seven minutes into the league game against Coventry City at Highfield Road in March 1984 Nigel Spink was taken off with a serious eye injury. In the days before substitute goalkeepers, Villa's European Cup hero Peter Withe had no hesitation in donning the keeper's jersey for the remainder of the match.

**21** A record for a game at Villa Park was established in March 1942 when 21 goals were scored. Villa won 19-2 against RAF (Lichfield) in a Birmingham & District Football League game. Frank Broome, Billy Goffin and Harry Parkes each netted four goals while Eric Houghton, Albert Kerr and George Cummings scored twice with Bob Iverson also on target.

**1912** Tommy Barber joined Villa from Bolton Wanderers on Christmas Eve in 1912 after playing 102 league games and helping the Trotters gain promotion from the old Second Division. Less than four months later Barber scored the goal that won the 1913 FA Cup final for Villa and went on to play 68 games for the club, scoring 10 goals, before joining the Footballers' Battalion in February 1915 during the Great War



# FANZONE

# CELL

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## 1 INJURY-HIT JAMES

James McCoy is a Holte End season ticket holder and he and his dad Matthew never miss a home game. Sadly, though, 11-year-old James was ruled out of his away "debut" by an injury. "He has been asking me for years to take him to an away game and I finally got him tickets for last week's game at Old Trafford," explained Matthew. "Unfortunately James fell and broke his wrist while playing football and ended up in Birmingham Children's Hospital." James was devastated but a family friend called into the Villa Store when Gabby Agbonlahor and Andreas Weimann made an appearance. A signed football and get-well card helped to cheer him up!

Cup-winning team on her bedroom walls. She and her husband Dave were season ticket holders and also travelled away until his sudden death three years ago, although she retained her seat in the Doug Ellis stand. "When I felt able to go on the road again I linked up with Tina, Joy and Anne," she said. "We are in the away scheme and share nights out at the VMF – so there was only one place to celebrate my birthday."

## 3 ALEXIA VILLA!

Here's a young lady who is destined to follow in the claret and blue tradition. Alexia May Parsons weighed in at 7lb 3oz on Monday 2nd April and at just three weeks old she is already a little Villan! Alexia's dad, Dave Parsons from Redditch, is a season ticket holder in the lower tier of the Holte End, along with his father, Pete. "My wife Aleta doesn't like football," said Dave. "So it's up to me to show Alexia what it means to support this club."

## 2 CAROL'S BIG NIGHT

There was a real treat for Carol Ashley on her 65th birthday – a meal at Villa Park's acclaimed VMF restaurant. A claret-and-blue devotee since 1957, Carol used to have pictures of Villa's FA

## 4 A VILLA NUMBER NINE

The number nine shirt has always been special for Villa and this young fan could wear that number with every justification – he was nine on 29th March. James Moran is already a regular at Villa Park, watching the action from the Trinity Road stand, and his favourite players are Gabby Agbonlahor and Stiliyan Petrov. His dad Mike said: "James has supported Villa from birth – with a little kick-start from me and his uncle Matty."







### 5 KATIE'S RELUCTANT CUDDLE

At just 10 months old, Katie James also knows the thrill of being a Villa fan. Although she's a little too young to come along to games just yet, she loves wearing her Villa kit to watch the team in action in televised games. Her dad Martin tells us: "She is already a Villan. When I get home from work or from a game she goes for my scarf before I even get a cuddle!"



### 6 ALFIE'S WAITING GAME

Alfie James Booth is another new Villa fans who loves watching the boys in claret and blue on TV. Alfie was born at the end of November and both his mum Hayley and his grand-dad, Shane Nicholls, have been season ticket holders in the Lower Holte for the past 18 seasons. They can't wait to bring Alfie along to a game.

### 7 PICTURE OF LILY

Two-year-old Lily Somerville couldn't have had a better debut as Villa fan. She attended her first match at Villa Park with her season ticket holder dad Matthew in the Upper Holte End – and cheered the lads to victory over Fulham. This picture shows her dressed up ready to set out for Villa Park, and she enjoyed the game that much that she returned for the Chelsea match.

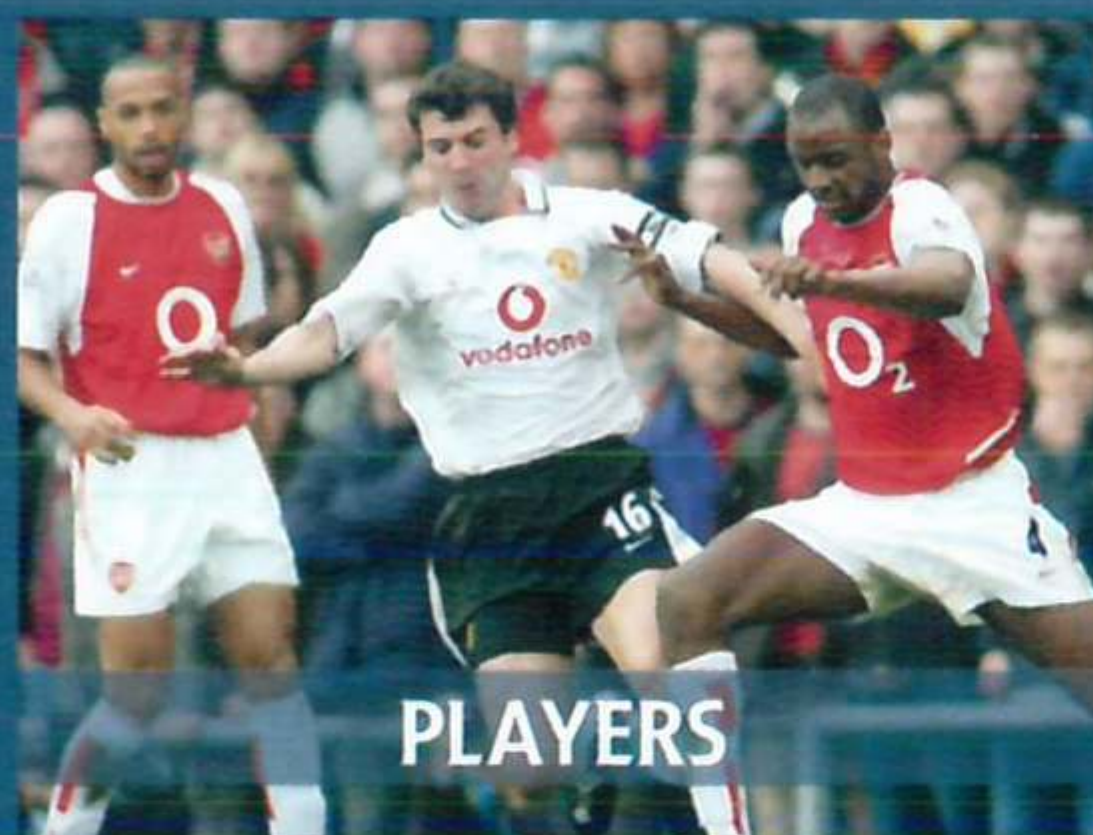






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Allan Evans climbs for a header during the match against Anderlecht in Brussels

# BATTLE OF BRUSSELS

AS WE RETRACE THE ROAD TO ROTTERDAM, IT'S TIME FOR THE SECOND LEG OF VILLA'S SEMI-FINAL AGAINST ANDERLECHT



**There's no doubt that Villa have a special relationship with the Armed Forces – which is slightly surprising when you consider that a British soldier almost sabotaged our chances of winning the European Cup!**

As Belgian champions Anderlecht launched a first-half attack at the Emil Verse Stadium in the second leg of the semi-final, a supporter in a claret polo shirt ran on to the pitch and lay down in the goalmouth before he was dragged away by half-a-dozen policemen.

It later emerged that the intruder was a member of the Sherwood Foresters and had taken time off from his duties in Germany to attend the match.

His excuse for running on to the pitch was that he was trying to get away from fighting which was raging on the terraces behind the goal – but his action almost proved costly for Villa.

Although Tony Barton's men held on for a goalless draw in Brussels and a 1-0 aggregate victory, the Belgian champions demanded that Villa either be expelled or at the very least, that the second leg should be re-staged.

A state of limbo existed for the following eight days, when secretary Steve Stride was accompanied by Denis Howell, the former Minister for Sport, to a UEFA meeting in Zurich which would determine the club's fate.

"I must admit I feared the worst because I certainly couldn't recall the state of play when the match was stopped," said Stride. "But Denis, bless him, came up with the question which ensured the game would not have to be re-staged.

"Anderlecht claimed they were denied a goal by the fan running on the pitch but Denis was a former first class referee and knew exactly what our approach should be.

"He simply asked where the game had been re-started and the answer was that it had resumed just inside our half. The Belgians could hardly

argue they were about to break through our defence from there!"

For all that, it had been a night to forget in Brussels, with the goalless draw overshadowed by crowd trouble which would result in Villa having to begin their defence of the European Cup the following season behind closed doors.

But that was one for the future. As the final whistle sounded at the Emil Verse Stadium, Villa's players saluted the fans as the realisation that they had reached the final began to sink in.

"It was almost as good as winning the final," recalls Gordon Cowans. "I can't begin to describe the emotion in the dressing room."

**FF IT WAS ALMOST AS GOOD AS WINNING THE FINAL JJ GORDON COWANS**

**ANDERLECHT 0**  
**ASTON VILLA 0**

WEDNESDAY 21st APRIL 1982

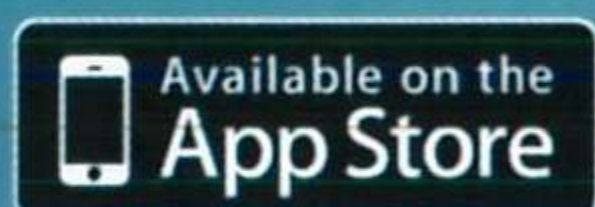
ATTENDANCE: 38,040

**TEAM:** RIMMER; SWAIN, EVANS, McNAUGHT, WILLIAMS; BREMNER, MORTIMER, COWANS, MORLEY; SHAW, WITHE.



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# GO OUT AND BLOCK 'IM!

WATCHING THE 2006 WORLD CUP ON TV, ANDY BLAIR COULDN'T HELP THINKING: "THAT COULD HAVE BEEN ME."

**He wasn't daydreaming about playing international football at the age of 46. The former Villa midfielder was more interested in the man in charge of one of the other teams in the world's greatest football competition. Nearly a quarter of a century earlier, he had rubbed shoulders with Ukraine coach Oleg Blokhin in the quarter-finals of the European Cup.**

"When I saw him in Germany, I had a little smile to myself and a few thoughts of what might have been," says Blair. "I finished playing at 27 because of a knee injury and I had my full coaching badge, which is the equivalent of the top licence these days.

"But I never converted it because I wanted to earn a living for my family and be my own boss. I've done that, but I often think about what I could have achieved if I'd carried on along the coaching side."

Instead, Blair earned his living initially from markets and shops and more recently from property

investment. He stays in touch with the game through his regular broadcasts as a co-commentator on AVTV.

Having joined Villa from Coventry City in the summer of 1981, he wasn't exactly a regular member of the side who conquered Europe, having played in just one game, against Valur of Iceland, before his unexpected call-up in the quarter-final.

An injury to Allan Evans necessitated a switch for the first leg of the tie against Soviet giants Dynamo Kiev, with Des Bremner moving back to deputise for the Scot in central defence, and Blair filling the vacancy in midfield.

"What I remember most is the excitement of playing in such an important game, knowing I was going to be pitting my wits against one of the best players in Europe. I was thrilled about the chance of playing against Blokhin.

"He was a superb player and it was great for me to be part of the team who drew 0-0 in such a difficult game.



"Although I was in midfield, I played more as a right-back because Blokhin was such an effective player. He hit the post early on but apart from that I kept him pretty quiet and I felt I played my part.

"I kept talking to Blokhin to put him off his game. I'm sure he didn't understand a word I was saying. Most of it was accompanied by the word 'off'!"

When Evans was declared fit for the return match at Villa Park two weeks later, Villa reverted to their recognised line-up and Blair was back on the bench, although he made a brief appearance when skipper Dennis Mortimer damaged his arm a couple of minutes from the end of Villa's 2-0 victory.

"The boys did a good job that night and by the time I went on the tie was won," he admits. "But at least it gave me a brief sample of European football at Villa Park. I'm just proud to have been part of it."





# ACTION REPLAY

**VILLA 0 SUNDERLAND 0** SATURDAY 21ST APRIL BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

**VILLA:** GIVEN; CUELLAR, COLLINS (HUTTON, 43), BAKER, LICHAJ; N'ZOGBIA (BANNAN, 84), HERD, IRELAND, ALBRIGHTON; WEIMANN, AGBONLAHOR (HESKEY, 48).

**UNUSED SUBS:** GUZAN, WARNOCK, G GARDNER, CARRUTHERS.

**SUNDERLAND:** MIGNOLET; O'SHEA, TURNER, KILGALLON, BARDSLEY; LARSSON, C GARDNER, COLBACK, McCLEAN; SESSEGNON; BENDTNER (CAMPBELL, 80).

**UNUSED SUBS:** WESTWOOD, BRIDGE, VAUGHAN, DONG-WON, MEYLER, KYRGIAKOS.

**MATCH OFFICIALS:**

**REFEREE** A TAYLOR

**ASSISTANTS** S BURT & G BESWICK

**FOURTH OFFICIAL** S MATHIESON

**ATTENDANCE** 32,556



Only when the final Barclays Premier League table is formulated will we know whether Saturday's goalless draw against Sunderland represents two points lost or one gained.

For the time being, though, the indications are that the latter may prove to be the case. Hopefully so, anyway.

True, the outcome didn't look a great result in comparison to home wins for Blackburn Rovers and QPR. But defeat for Wigan Athletic and a draw for Bolton Wanderers meant the overall picture in the lower reaches of the table looked fairly favourable from a claret and blue perspective.

And while a goalless outcome was obviously disappointing, a draw against a Sunderland side who have improved beyond recognition under Martin O'Neill this season should not be dismissed lightly.

Our former manager clearly had his players fired up for his first return to these parts since resigning 20 months ago, and a draw would have become a defeat had Nicklas Bendtner's second half effort not been ruled out by a marginal offside decision.

Bendtner also had a shot cleared off the line by Stephen Ireland, while the menacing James McClean had a stoppage-time header well saved by Shay Given.





### THE BOSS

We had the better chances and I thought we should have won. But we were playing against a very experienced Sunderland side.

ALEX McLEISH

### THE PLAYER

The main thing we can take out of the game is our work-rate. The commitment was second to none.

MARC ALBRIGHTON

### THE PRESS

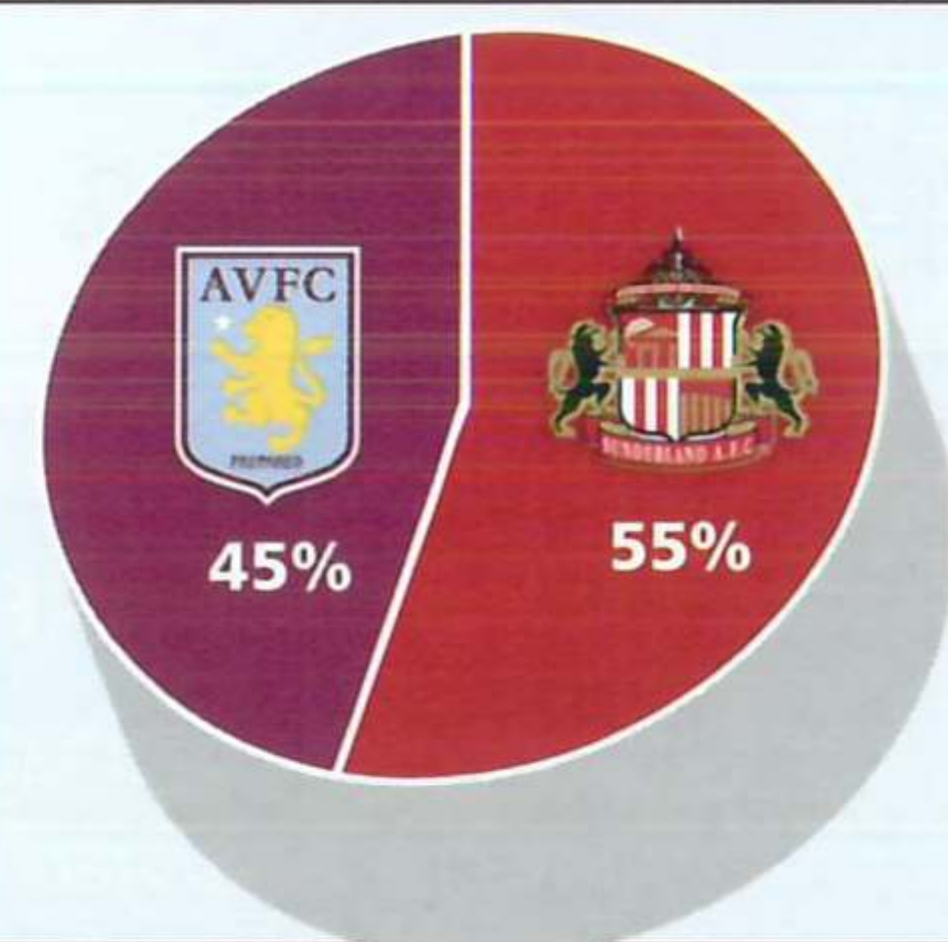
Stand-in skipper Gabby Agbonlahor suggested a group hug before kick-off to try to inspire Aston Villa towards Premier League survival. And it nearly worked.

THE SUN

#### VILLA

#### SUNDERLAND

|   |                  |   |
|---|------------------|---|
| 4 | SHOTS ON TARGET  | 3 |
| 4 | SHOTS OFF TARGET | 6 |
| 8 | CORNERS          | 5 |



Generally, though, Alex McLeish's men held the upper hand and were twice close to taking the lead in the opening five minutes. Andreas Weimann's lofted effort was clawed away by Simon Mignolet after Gabby Agbonlahor had charged down the keeper's clearance, while Agbonlahor's goal-bound drive deflected for a corner off Matthew Kilgallon.

Charles N'Zogbia was closer still with a fierce low shot which was destined for the bottom corner until Mignolet dived to his left to tip it away.

Despite the lack of a breakthrough, the situation was encouraging as half-time approached, only for Villa to suffer two

major blows either side of the interval.

First James Collins limped off and then Agbonlahor was forced out of the action with a shoulder injury when the acting captain fell awkwardly after an aerial challenge.

Even so, Villa continued to push forward, Weimann driving a fierce free-kick into the Sunderland wall before sub Emile Heskey tried a shot on the turn which didn't carry enough power to trouble Mignolet.

But the home side were ultimately thankful for Ireland's goal-line clearance and a linesman's raised flag.

In the end it was point well made – and hopefully one which will prove important when the final table is published.







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## VILLA ROLL CALL 2011-12

|                                                                           |                                                        | 11/12              |                   | 11/12            |                   | 11/12              |                   | VILLA                |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----|
|                                                                           |                                                        | LEAGUE             |                   | CUP              |                   | TOTAL              |                   | TOTAL                |     |
|                                                                           |                                                        | Apps               | Gls               | Apps             | Gls               | Apps               | Gls               | Apps                 | Gls |
| 1                                                                         | <b>SHAY GIVEN</b> Lifford 20.4.76                      | 28                 | -                 | 2                | -                 | 30                 | -                 | 30                   | -   |
| 2                                                                         | <b>ALAN HUTTON</b> Glasgow 30.11.84                    | 26 <sup>(2)</sup>  | -                 | 3                | -                 | 29 <sup>(2)</sup>  | -                 | 29 <sup>(2)</sup>    | -   |
| 3                                                                         | <b>STEPHEN WARNOCK</b> Ormskirk 12.12.81               | 30 <sup>(1)</sup>  | 1                 | 3                | -                 | 33 <sup>(1)</sup>  | 1                 | 96 <sup>(1)</sup>    | 2   |
| 5                                                                         | <b>RICHARD DUNNE</b> Dublin 21.9.79                    | 25                 | 1                 | 4                | 1                 | 29                 | 2                 | 108                  | 5   |
| 6                                                                         | <b>JAMES COLLINS</b> Newport 23.8.83                   | 30                 | 1                 | 2                | -                 | 32                 | 1                 | 101 <sup>(5)</sup>   | 6   |
| 7                                                                         | <b>STEPHEN IRELAND</b> Cork 22.8.86                    | 17 <sup>(5)</sup>  | 1                 | 4                | -                 | 21 <sup>(5)</sup>  | 1                 | 29 <sup>(10)</sup>   | 1   |
| 9                                                                         | <b>DARREN BENT</b> Wandsworth 6.2.84                   | 21 <sup>(1)</sup>  | 9                 | 3                | 1                 | 24 <sup>(1)</sup>  | 10                | 40 <sup>(1)</sup>    | 19  |
| 10                                                                        | <b>CHARLES N'ZOGBIA</b> Le Havre 28.5.86               | 21 <sup>(6)</sup>  | 21 <sup>(1)</sup> | -                | 22 <sup>(7)</sup> | 2                  | 22 <sup>(7)</sup> | 2                    | -   |
| 11                                                                        | <b>GABRIEL AGBONLAHOR</b> Birmingham 13.10.86          | 30                 | 5                 | 2 <sup>(1)</sup> | 1                 | 32 <sup>(1)</sup>  | 6                 | 227 <sup>(23)</sup>  | 62  |
| 12                                                                        | <b>MARC ALBRIGHTON</b> Tamworth 18.11.89               | 14 <sup>(11)</sup> | 2                 | 3                | 1                 | 17 <sup>(11)</sup> | 3                 | 42 <sup>(27)</sup>   | 9   |
| 14                                                                        | <b>NATHAN DELFOUNESO</b> Birmingham 2.2.91             | 1 <sup>(3)</sup>   | -                 | 1 <sup>(1)</sup> | 1                 | 2 <sup>(4)</sup>   | 1                 | 13 <sup>(36)</sup>   | 9   |
| 16                                                                        | <b>FABIAN DELPH</b> Bradford 21.11.89                  | 10 <sup>(1)</sup>  | -                 | -                | -                 | 10 <sup>(1)</sup>  | -                 | 25 <sup>(9)</sup>    | 1   |
| 17                                                                        | <b>JEAN-PI MAKOUN</b> Yaounde (Cameroon) 29.5.83       | -                  | -                 | 1                | -                 | 1                  | -                 | 8                    | -   |
| 18                                                                        | <b>EMILE HESKEY</b> Leicester 11.1.78                  | 14 <sup>(10)</sup> | 1                 | 1                | -                 | 15 <sup>(10)</sup> | 1                 | 67 <sup>(39)</sup>   | 14  |
| 19                                                                        | <b>STILIYAN PETROV</b> Sofia 5.7.79                    | 26 <sup>(1)</sup>  | 4                 | 3                | -                 | 29 <sup>(1)</sup>  | 4                 | 206 <sup>(113)</sup> | 12  |
| 21                                                                        | <b>CIARAN CLARK</b> Harrow 26.9.89                     | 10 <sup>(2)</sup>  | -                 | 3                | 1                 | 13 <sup>(2)</sup>  | 1                 | 36 <sup>(6)</sup>    | 5   |
| 22                                                                        | <b>BRAD GUZAN</b> Evergreen Park (Illinois) 9.9.84     | 6 <sup>(1)</sup>   | -                 | 2                | -                 | 8 <sup>(1)</sup>   | -                 | 28 <sup>(2)</sup>    | -   |
| 24                                                                        | <b>CARLOS CUELLAR</b> Madrid 23.8.81                   | 13 <sup>(1)</sup>  | -                 | 1                | -                 | 14 <sup>(1)</sup>  | -                 | 110 <sup>(7)</sup>   | 3   |
| 25                                                                        | <b>BARRY BANNAN</b> Glasgow 1.12.89                    | 10 <sup>(16)</sup> | 1                 | 2 <sup>(2)</sup> | -                 | 12 <sup>(18)</sup> | 1                 | 27 <sup>(24)</sup>   | 2   |
| 26                                                                        | <b>ANDREAS WEIMANN</b> Vienna 5.8.91                   | 4 <sup>(8)</sup>   | 2                 | 1 <sup>(1)</sup> | -                 | 4 <sup>(9)</sup>   | 2                 | 4 <sup>(11)</sup>    | 2   |
| 29                                                                        | <b>ENDA STEVENS</b> Dublin 9.7.90                      | -                  | -                 | -                | -                 | -                  | -                 | -                    | -   |
| 30                                                                        | <b>ERIC LICHAJ</b> Downers Grove (Illinois) 17.11.88   | 5 <sup>(1)</sup>   | 1                 | 1                | 1                 | 6 <sup>(1)</sup>   | 2                 | 12 <sup>(3)</sup>    | 2   |
| 31                                                                        | <b>CHRIS HERD</b> Melbourne 4.4.89                     | 15                 | 1                 | 1                | -                 | 16                 | 1                 | 18 <sup>(5)</sup>    | 1   |
| 32                                                                        | <b>NATHAN BAKER</b> Worcester 23.4.91                  | 5 <sup>(1)</sup>   | -                 | -                | -                 | 5 <sup>(1)</sup>   | -                 | 10 <sup>(1)</sup>    | -   |
| 33                                                                        | <b>ANDREW MARSHALL</b> Bury St Edmunds 14.4.75         | -                  | -                 | -                | -                 | -                  | -                 | -                    | -   |
| 35                                                                        | <b>DANIEL JOHNSON</b> Jamaica 8.10.92                  | -                  | -                 | -                | -                 | -                  | -                 | -                    | -   |
| 37                                                                        | <b>DERRICK WILLIAMS</b> Sindelfingen (Germany) 17.1.93 | -                  | -                 | -                | -                 | -                  | -                 | -                    | -   |
| 36                                                                        | <b>GRAHAM BURKE</b> Dublin 21.9.93                     | -                  | -                 | -                | -                 | -                  | -                 | -                    | -   |
| 38                                                                        | <b>GARY GARDNER</b> Solihull 29.6.92                   | 5 <sup>(7)</sup>   | -                 | 1 <sup>(2)</sup> | -                 | 5 <sup>(9)</sup>   | -                 | 5 <sup>(9)</sup>     | -   |
| 40                                                                        | <b>SAMIR CARRUTHERS</b> London 4.4.93                  | 1 <sup>(2)</sup>   | -                 | -                | -                 | 1 <sup>(2)</sup>   | -                 | 1 <sup>(2)</sup>     | -   |
| 41                                                                        | <b>JACK GREALISH</b> Birmingham 10.9.95                | -                  | -                 | -                | -                 | -                  | -                 | -                    | -   |
| <b>OWN GOALS</b>                                                          |                                                        | -                  | -                 | -                | -                 | -                  | -                 | -                    | -   |
| <b>ALSO PLAYED:</b>                                                       |                                                        |                    |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                      |     |
| <b>Habib Beye (to Doncaster Rovers) 1 sub Cup</b>                         |                                                        |                    |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                      |     |
| <b>Jermaine Jenas (on loan from Tottenham Hotspur) 1(2) League</b>        |                                                        |                    |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                      |     |
| <b>Robbie Keane (on loan from LA Galaxy) 5(1) League (3 goals), 1 Cup</b> |                                                        |                    |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                      |     |
| <b>Luke Young (to QPR) 2 League</b>                                       |                                                        |                    |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                      |     |

UP TO AND INCLUDING SUNDAY 22 APRIL



GABBY AGBONLAHOR - MADE HIS 250TH APPEARANCE ON SATURDAY



## PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE

| Club                  | Pld       | W        | D         | L         | F         | A         | GD         | Pts       |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 1 Manchester United   | 35        | 26       | 5         | 4         | 86        | 32        | +54        | 83        |
| 2 Manchester City     | 35        | 25       | 5         | 5         | 87        | 27        | +60        | 80        |
| 3 Arsenal             | 35        | 20       | 5         | 10        | 67        | 43        | +24        | 65        |
| 4 Newcastle United    | 34        | 18       | 8         | 8         | 53        | 42        | +11        | 62        |
| 5 Tottenham Hotspur   | 34        | 17       | 8         | 9         | 57        | 39        | +18        | 59        |
| 6 Chelsea             | 34        | 16       | 10        | 8         | 56        | 38        | +18        | 58        |
| 7 Everton             | 34        | 13       | 9         | 12        | 42        | 38        | +4         | 48        |
| 8 Liverpool           | 34        | 12       | 10        | 12        | 40        | 37        | +3         | 46        |
| 9 Fulham              | 34        | 12       | 10        | 12        | 45        | 44        | +1         | 46        |
| 10 WB Albion          | 35        | 13       | 6         | 16        | 41        | 47        | -6         | 45        |
| 11 Sunderland         | 35        | 11       | 11        | 13        | 42        | 41        | +1         | 44        |
| 12 Swansea City       | 35        | 11       | 10        | 14        | 39        | 45        | -6         | 43        |
| 13 Norwich City       | 35        | 11       | 10        | 14        | 47        | 60        | -13        | 43        |
| 14 Stoke City         | 34        | 11       | 9         | 14        | 32        | 48        | -16        | 42        |
| <b>15 Aston Villa</b> | <b>34</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>35</b> | <b>48</b> | <b>-13</b> | <b>36</b> |
| 16 QPR                | 35        | 9        | 7         | 19        | 39        | 57        | -18        | 34        |
| 17 Wigan Athletic     | 35        | 8        | 10        | 17        | 34        | 60        | -26        | 34        |
| 18 Blackburn Rovers   | 35        | 8        | 7         | 20        | 47        | 73        | -26        | 31        |
| 19 Bolton Wanderers   | 33        | 9        | 3         | 21        | 37        | 66        | -29        | 30        |
| (R) Wolverhampton W.  | 35        | 5        | 8         | 22        | 34        | 75        | -41        | 23        |



# VILLASTATS 2011-12

| DATE       | H/A | OPPOSITION              | RESULT | ATTENDANCE | STARTING XI                                                                                         |
|------------|-----|-------------------------|--------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SAT AUG 13 | A   | FULHAM                  | 0-0    | 25,700     | GIVEN, YOUNG, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, N'ZOGBIA, PETROV, DELPH, HERD                                |
| SAT AUG 20 | H   | BLACKBURN ROVERS        | 3-1    | 32,319     | GIVEN, YOUNG, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, N'ZOGBIA, PETROV, DELPH, HERD                                |
| TUE AUG 23 | H   | HEREFORD UNITED (CC2)   | 2-0    | 21,058     | GUZAN, HERD, DUNNE, CLARK, LICHAJ <sup>1</sup> , ALBRIGHTON, MAKOUN, BANNAN, PETROV                 |
| SAT AUG 27 | H   | WOLVES                  | 0-0    | 30,776     | GIVEN; HERD, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK; N'ZOGBIA, PETROV, DELPH, HERD                                 |
| SAT SEP 10 | A   | EVERTON                 | 2-2    | 32,736     | GIVEN; HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK; N'ZOGBIA, PETROV, DELPH, HERD                               |
| SAT SEP 17 | H   | NEWCASTLE UNITED        | 1-1    | 32,248     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, BANNAN, PETROV, DELPH, HERD                                 |
| TUE SEP 20 | H   | BOLTON WANDERERS (CC3)  | 0-2    | 22,261     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON, IRELAND, PETROV                                 |
| SUN SEP 25 | A   | QPR                     | 1-1    | 16,704     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, BANNAN <sup>1</sup> , PETROV, DELPH, HERD                   |
| SAT OCT 1  | H   | WIGAN ATHLETIC          | 2-0    | 30,744     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, BANNAN, PETROV, IRELAND, PETROV                             |
| SAT OCT 15 | A   | MANCHESTER CITY         | 1-4    | 47,019     | GIVEN, HUTTON, CLARK, DUNNE, WARNOCK <sup>1</sup> , HESKEY, PETROV, IRELAND, PETROV                 |
| SAT OCT 22 | H   | WEST BROMWICH ALBION    | 1-2    | 34,152     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, N'ZOGBIA, PETROV, HERD, IRELAND                             |
| SAT OCT 29 | A   | SUNDERLAND              | 2-2    | 37,062     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE <sup>1</sup> , WARNOCK, N'ZOGBIA, PETROV <sup>1</sup> , HERD, IRELAND |
| SAT NOV 5  | H   | NORWICH CITY            | 3-2    | 35,290     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, N'ZOGBIA, PETROV, HERD, IRELAND                             |
| MON NOV 21 | A   | TOTTENHAM               | 0-2    | 35,818     | GIVEN, CUELLAR, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, HUTTON, PETROV, HERD, IRELAND                              |
| SUN NOV 27 | A   | SWANSEA CITY            | 0-0    | 20,404     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, N'ZOGBIA, DELPH, HERD, IRELAND                              |
| SAT DEC 3  | H   | MANCHESTER UNITED       | 0-1    | 40,055     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON, BANNAN, PETROV                                  |
| SAT DEC 10 | A   | BOLTON WANDERERS        | 2-1    | 20,285     | GUZAN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON <sup>1</sup> , PETROV, DELPH, HERD               |
| SUN DEC 18 | H   | LIVERPOOL               | 0-2    | 37,460     | GUZAN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON, PETROV, DELPH, HERD                             |
| WED DEC 21 | H   | ARSENAL                 | 1-2    | 35,818     | GUZAN, HUTTON, CUELLAR, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON <sup>1</sup> , PETROV, DELPH, HERD               |
| MON DEC 26 | A   | STOKE CITY              | 0-0    | 27,739     | GUZAN, CUELLAR, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON, PETROV, DELPH, HERD                            |
| SAT DEC 31 | A   | CHELSEA                 | 3-1    | 41,332     | GUZAN, CUELLAR, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON, PETROV <sup>1</sup> , DELPH, HERD              |
| MON JAN 2  | H   | SWANSEA CITY            | 0-2    | 35,642     | GUZAN, CUELLAR, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, AGBONLAHOR, PETROV, DELPH, HERD                            |
| SAT JAN 7  | A   | BRISTOL ROVERS (FAC 3)  | 3-1    | 10,883     | GUZAN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON <sup>1</sup> , PETROV, DELPH, HERD               |
| SAT JAN 14 | H   | EVERTON                 | 1-1    | 31,853     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON, PETROV, CLARK, LICHAJ                           |
| SAT JAN 21 | A   | WOLVES                  | 3-2    | 27,084     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, CLARK, ALBRIGHTON, PETROV, GARDNER, IRELAND                          |
| SUN JAN 29 | A   | ARSENAL (FAC 4)         | 2-3    | 60,019     | GIVEN, HUTTON, CUELLAR, DUNNE <sup>1</sup> , WARNOCK, IRELAND, PETROV, CLARK, LICHAJ                |
| WED FEB 1  | H   | QPR                     | 2-2    | 32,063     | GIVEN, HUTTON, CUELLAR, DUNNE, WARNOCK, IRELAND, PETROV, CLARK, LICHAJ                              |
| SUN FEB 5  | A   | NEWCASTLE UNITED        | 1-2    | 48,569     | GIVEN, HUTTON, CUELLAR, DUNNE, WARNOCK, IRELAND, PETROV, CLARK, LICHAJ                              |
| SUN FEB 12 | H   | MANCHESTER CITY         | 0-1    | 35,132     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, DUNNE, CUELLAR, HESKEY, PETROV, GARDNER, IRELAND                            |
| SAT FEB 25 | A   | WIGAN ATHLETIC          | 0-0    | 20,612     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, CUELLAR, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON, GARDNER, IRELAND                              |
| SAT MAR 3  | A   | BLACKBURN ROVERS        | 1-1    | 20,717     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, CUELLAR, WARNOCK, N'ZOGBIA <sup>1</sup> , HERD, PETROV, CLARK, LICHAJ       |
| SAT MAR 10 | H   | FULHAM                  | 1-0    | 32,371     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, CUELLAR, WARNOCK, N'ZOGBIA, PETROV, HERD, IRELAND                           |
| SAT MAR 24 | A   | ARSENAL                 | 0-3    | 60,108     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, CUELLAR, WARNOCK, ALBRIGHTON, PETROV, CLARK, LICHAJ                         |
| SAT MAR 31 | H   | CHELSEA                 | 2-4    | 34,740     | GIVEN, LICHAJ <sup>1</sup> , COLLINS <sup>1</sup> , BAKER, WARNOCK, BANNAN, IRELAND, HERD, IRELAND  |
| SAT APR 7  | A   | LIVERPOOL               | 1-1    | 44,321     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, BAKER, LICHAJ, BANNAN, HERD <sup>1</sup> , IRELAND, WARNOCK                 |
| MON APR 9  | H   | STOKE CITY              | 1-1    | 30,100     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, BAKER, LICHAJ, BANNAN, HERD, IRELAND, WARNOCK                               |
| SUN APR 15 | A   | MANCHESTER UNITED       | 0-4    | 75,138     | GIVEN, HUTTON, COLLINS, BAKER, LICHAJ, BANNAN, IRELAND, CLARK, GARDNER                              |
| SAT APR 21 | H   | SUNDERLAND              | 0-0    | 32,557     | GIVEN, CUELLAR, COLLINS, BAKER, LICHAJ, N'ZOGBIA, HERD, IRELAND, ALBRIGHTON                         |
| TUE APR 24 | H   | BOLTON WANDERERS 7.45pm |        |            |                                                                                                     |
| SAT APR 28 | A   | WEST BROMWICH ALBION    |        |            |                                                                                                     |
| SUN MAY 6  | H   | TOTTENHAM 2.00pm        |        |            |                                                                                                     |
| SUN MAY 13 | A   | NORWICH CITY            |        |            |                                                                                                     |


BARCLAYS  
PREMIER LEAGUE

## BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE 2011-12

### HIGHEST ATTENDANCE

75,627 Manchester United v Wolves 10.12.11

### LOWEST ATTENDANCE

15,195 QPR v Bolton 13.8.11

### HIGHEST SCORING HOME WINS

8-2 Manchester United v Arsenal 28.8.11

7-1 Arsenal v Blackburn 4.2.12

### HIGHEST SCORING AWAY WINS

6-1 Manchester City at Manchester United 23.10.11

6-1 Manchester City at Norwich 14.4.12

### MOST GOALS IN A MATCH

4 Edin Dzeko (Manchester City) at Tottenham 28.8.11

4 Yakubu (Blackburn) v Swansea 3.12.11

3 Wayne Rooney (Manchester United) v Arsenal 28.8.11

3 Sergio Aguero (Manchester City) v Wigan 10.9.11

3 Wayne Rooney (Manchester United) at Bolton 10.9.11

3 Demba Ba (Newcastle) v Blackburn 24.9.11

3 Frank Lampard (Chelsea) at Bolton 2.10.11

3 Andy Johnson (Fulham) v QPR 2.10.11

3 Robin van Persie (Arsenal) at Chelsea 29.10.11

3 Demba Ba (Newcastle) at Stoke 31.10.11

3 Dimitar Berbatov (Manchester United) v Wigan 26.12.11



|                                                                       | SUBSTITUTES                               | UNUSED SUBS                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| PH, AGBONLAHOR, BENT, HESKEY                                          | ALBRIGHTON, CLARK                         | GUZAN, IRELAND,DELFOUNESO, MAKOUN, BANNAN             |
| PH, AGBONLAHOR <sup>1</sup> , BENT <sup>1</sup> , HESKEY <sup>1</sup> | ALBRIGHTON, CLARK, BANNAN                 | GUZAN, IRELAND,DELFOUNESO, MAKOUN                     |
| , N'ZOGBIA, IRELAND, BENT                                             | BEYE, DELFOUNESO <sup>1</sup> , WEIMANN   | MARSHALL, HOGG, BAKER, LOWRY                          |
| H, AGBONLAHOR; HESKEY; BENT.                                          | BANNAN, ALBRIGHTON                        | GUZAN, IRELAND, DELFOUNESO, MAKOUN, CLARK             |
| DELPH, BENT, AGBONLAHOR <sup>1</sup> , HESKEY.                        | BANNAN, ALBRIGHTON, IRELAND               | GUZAN, DELFOUNESO, CLARK, HERD.                       |
| , N'ZOGBIA, BENT, AGBONLAHOR <sup>1</sup>                             | ALBRIGHTON, IRELAND, DELFOUNESO           | GUZAN, HERD, LOWRY, GARDNER                           |
| ETROV, BANNAN, DELFOUNESO, AGBONLAHOR                                 | N'ZOGBIA                                  | GUZAN, DELPH, BEYE, LOWRY, BURKE,GARDNER              |
| I, N'ZOGBIA , IRELAND, AGBONALHOR                                     | ALBRIGHTON, WEINANN                       | GUZAN, DELFOUNESO, BEYE, LOWRY, GARDNER               |
| D, DELPH, AGBONLAHOR <sup>1</sup> , BENT <sup>1</sup>                 | HESKEY, N'ZOGBIA, WEIMANN                 | GUZAN, ALBRIGHTON, CLARK, HERD                        |
| DELPH, AGBONLAHOR, BENT                                               | N'ZOGBIA, BANNAN, ALBRIGHTON              | GUZAN, CUELLAR, WEIMANN, HERD                         |
| BANNAN, AGBONLAHOR, BENT <sup>1</sup>                                 | CUELLAR, HESKEY, ALBRIGHTON               | GUZAN, IRELAND, DELFOUNESO, CLARK                     |
| D, HESKEY, AGBONLAHOR, BENT                                           | ALBRIGHTON                                | GUZAN, IRELAND, DELFOUNESO, DELPH, CLARK, CUELLAR     |
| HESKEY, AGBONLAHOR <sup>1</sup> , BENT <sup>2</sup>                   | JENAS, IRELAND                            | GUZAN, ALBRIGHTON, DELPH, CLARK, CUELLAR              |
| HESKEY, AGBONLAHOR, BENT                                              | BANNAN, DELPH                             | GUZAN, IRELAND, N'ZOGBIA, CLARK, WEIMANN              |
| HESKEY, AGBONLAHOR, BENT                                              | JENAS, BANNAN                             | GUZAN, ALBRIGHTON, DELFOUNESO, CLARK, CUELLAR         |
| HERD, JENAS, AGBONLAHOR, BENT                                         | GUZAN, HESKEY, PERTOV                     | IRELAND, DELPH, CLARK, CUELLAR                        |
| -HERD, N'ZOGBIA, AGBONLAHOR, BENT                                     | HESKEY                                    | MARSHALL, IRELAND, DELFOUNESO, CLARK, BANNAN, WEIMANN |
| DELPH, N'ZOGBIA HESKEY, DELFOUNESO                                    | BANNAN, WEIMANN                           | MARSHALL, CLARK, CUELLAR, JOHNSON, BURKE              |
| CLARK, IRELAND, N'ZOGBIA, AGBONALHOR                                  | BANNAN, DELFOUNESO                        | MARSHALL, COLLINS, DELPH, WEIMANN, WILLIAMS           |
| LARK, N.ZOGBIA, HESKEY, AGBONALHOR                                    | DELFOUNESO                                | MARSHALL, IRELAND, BANNAN, WEIMANN, JOHNSON, GARDNER  |
| CLARK, N'ZOGBIA, IRELAND <sup>1</sup> , AGBONALHOR                    | BENT <sup>1</sup> , GARDNER, BANNAN       | MARSHALL, HUTTON, DELFOUNESO, WEIMANN                 |
| CLARK, N'ZOGBIA, IRELAND, BENT                                        | HUTTON, ALBRIGHTON, BANNAN                | MARSHALL, HESKEY, WEIMANN, GARDNER                    |
| CLARK <sup>1</sup> , IRELAND, HESKEY, BENT                            | AGBONLAHOR <sup>1</sup> , GARDNER, BANNAN | MARSHALL, N'ZOGBIA, DELPH, WEIMANN                    |
| RK, AGBONALHOR, IRELAND, BENT <sup>1</sup>                            | KEANE                                     | GUZAN, N'ZOGBIA, DELPH, CUELLAR, BANNAN, GARDNER      |
| IER, AGBONALHOR, KEANE <sup>2</sup> , BENT <sup>1</sup>               | WARNOCK, BANNAN, WEIMANN                  | GUZAN, DELFOUNESO, CUELLAR, BAKER                     |
| K, AGBONLAHOR, KEANE, BENT <sup>1</sup>                               | GARDNER, BANNAN                           | GUZAN, HESKEY, WEIMANN, LICHAJ, BAKER                 |
| N'ZOGBIA <sup>1</sup> , KEANE, BENT <sup>1</sup>                      | BANNAN                                    | GUZAN, HESKEY, WEIMANN, LICHAJ, BAKER, GARDNER        |
| N'ZOGBIA, KEANE <sup>1</sup> , BENT                                   | BANNAN, HESKEY, GARDNER                   | GUZAN, WEIMANN, LICHAJ, BAKER                         |
| ALBRIGHTON, KEANE, BENT                                               | N'ZOGBIA, IRELAND, BAKER                  | GUZAN, WARNOCK, BANNAN, WEIMANN                       |
| BANNAN, AGBONLAHOR, KEANE, BENT                                       | HESKEY, IRELAND, N'ZOGBIA                 | GUZAN, WEIMANN, HERD, BAKER                           |
| V, ALBRIGHTON, IRELAND, AGBONLAHOR                                    | BANNAN, GARDNER, WEIMANN                  | GUZAN, HESKEY, LICHAJ, BAKER                          |
| D, ALBRIGHTON, IRELAND, AGBONLAHOR                                    | WEIMANN <sup>1</sup> , BANNAN, GARDNER    | GUZAN, HESKEY, LICHAJ, BAKER                          |
| ERD, AGBONLAHOR, IRELAND, HESKEY                                      | GARDNER, WEIMANN, LICHAJ                  | GUZAN, BANNAN, BAKER, CARRUTHERS                      |
| GARDNER, WEIMANN, AGBONLAHOR                                          | ALBRIGHTON, HESKEY                        | GUZAN, JOHNSON, WILLIAMS, CARRUTHERS, GREALISH        |
| RNOCK, HESKEY, AGBONLAHOR                                             | GARDNER, WEIMANN, CARRUTHERS              | GUZAN, STEVENS, JOHNSON, WILLIAMS                     |
| NOCK, WEIMANN <sup>1</sup> , AGBONLAHOR                               | GARDNER, N'ZOGBIA, HESKEY                 | GUZAN, CUELLAR, JOHNSON, CARRUTHERS                   |
| DNER, AGBONLAHOR, WEIMANN                                             | HESKEY, CARRUTHERS, N'ZOGBIA              | GUZAN, DELFOUNESO, CUELLAR, JOHNSON                   |
| RIGHTON, WEIMANN, AGBONLAHOR                                          | HUTTON, HESKEY, BANNAN                    | GUZAN, WARNOCK, GARDNER, CARRUTHERS                   |



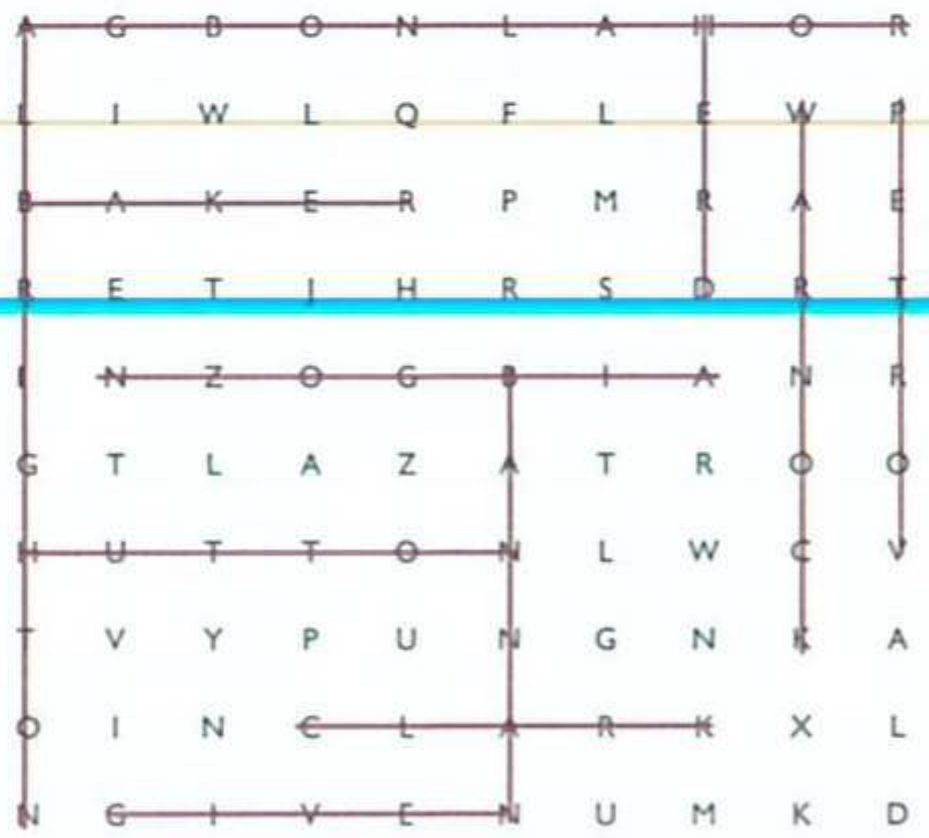
3 Clint Dempsey (Fulham) v Newcastle 21.1.12  
3 Robin van Persie (Arsenal) v Blackburn 4.2.12  
3 Peter Odemwingie (WB Albion) at Wolves 12.2.12  
3 Pavel Pogrebnyak (Fulham) v Wolves 4.3.12  
3 Steven Gerrard (Liverpool) v Everton 13.3.12  
3 Carlos Tevez (Man City) at Norwich 14.4.12

LEADING SCORERS

27 Robin van Persie (Arsenal)  
24 Wayne Rooney (Manchester United)  
21 Sergio Aguero (Manchester City)  
16 Demba Ba (Newcastle)  
16 Clint Dempsey (Fulham)  
16 Yakubu (Blackburn)  
13 Emmanuel Adebayor (Tottenham)

13 Mario Balotelli (Manchester City)  
13 Edin Dzeko (Manchester City)  
13 Grant Holt (Norwich)  
11 Frank Lampard (Chelsea)  
10 Papiss Cisse (Newcastle)  
10 Jermain Defoe (Tottenham)  
10 Steven Fletcher (Wolves)  
10 Danny Graham (Swansea)  
10 Javier Hernandez (Man United)  
10 Daniel Sturridge (Chelsea)

FIND THE VILLANS (See page 36)





# VILLA VAULTS



## Is this what you call putting your foot in it?

Not quite, although goalkeeper Alan Hodgkinson looks as if he is just about to devour Tony Hateley's right boot after they had both fallen after challenging for a cross when Villa played Sheffield United in September 1963. Villa fans of a certain age may also be able to spot Alan Baker (No. 8) just behind the referee and Vic Crowe (No.4).

IN THE FRAME



### How did the game finish?

Unfortunately Villa lost 1-0 and it was generally a disappointing season. Joe Mercer's team finished 19th in the old First Division, with only Birmingham City plus relegated duo Bolton Wanderers and Ipswich Town below us in the final table. There were 22 clubs in the top flight in those days. No play-offs, either.

### Hateley obviously didn't score that day, but wasn't his record pretty good?

It was very impressive. He had scored against Nottingham Forest on his debut just

over a month earlier, and that was the first of 86 goals in 148 appearances before he joined Chelsea for £100,000 in October 1966. That's a ratio of more than one every two games.

### Villa Park looked very different then...

Indeed. The vast bank in the background is the old Witton End terrace, where the North Stand now stands. The ground certainly wasn't packed, though – the attendance that day was 22,212.

### Who took the photo?

It was taken by a young photographer called Brian Wood for a paper called the Birmingham Planet, which has long since ceased to exist. The match against the Blades was his first sports assignment for the paper and this picture was used in the next edition. Brian kindly gave us permission to reproduce his excellent shot from nearly half a century ago.

## BAT'S OUR GIRL! Archives - Laura Brett

**N**ervously waiting in the wings tonight is eight-year-old Laura-Leigh Garvey.

Not only is Laura-Leigh playing alongside her team mates from Springfield House School against Langley School for the Villa Special Needs Cup at half-time, she is also following in the historic footsteps of her great-great uncle, former Villa player Bat Garvey.

Bartholomew 'Bat' Garvey played for the club from 1888 to 1893,



scoring twice on his debut in a 6-4 friendly victory over Blackburn Rovers a fortnight after signing.

It seems Laura-Leigh has inherited Bat's genes as she scored a goal and received a certificate and trophy from Alex McLeish for Player of the Day at a recent match in the competition. She is pictured holding her trophy.

We're sure Laura-Leigh and all of the other players from Springfield House and Langley School will enjoy their evening at Villa Park.



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## ASTON VILLA

|                           |    |   |
|---------------------------|----|---|
| Shay <b>GIVEN</b> (Gk)    | 01 | ■ |
| Alan <b>HUTTON</b>        | 02 | ■ |
| Stephen <b>WARNOCK</b>    | 03 | ■ |
| Richard <b>DUNNE</b>      | 05 | ■ |
| James <b>COLLINS</b>      | 06 | ■ |
| Stephen <b>IRELAND</b>    | 07 | ■ |
| Jermaine <b>JENAS</b>     | 08 | ■ |
| Darren <b>BENT</b>        | 09 | ■ |
| Charles <b>N'ZOGBIA</b>   | 10 | ■ |
| Gabriel <b>AGBONLAHOR</b> | 11 | ■ |
| Marc <b>ALBRIGHTON</b>    | 12 | ■ |
| Nathan <b>DELFOUNESO</b>  | 14 | ■ |
| Fabian <b>DELPH</b>       | 16 | ■ |
| Jean Il <b>MAKOUN</b>     | 17 | ■ |
| Emile <b>HESKEY</b>       | 18 | ■ |
| Stiliyan <b>PETROV</b>    | 19 | ■ |
| Ciaran <b>CLARK</b>       | 21 | ■ |
| Brad <b>GUZAN</b> (Gk)    | 22 | ■ |
| Carlos <b>CUELLAR</b>     | 24 | ■ |
| Barry <b>BANNAN</b>       | 25 | ■ |
| Andreas <b>WEIMANN</b>    | 26 | ■ |
| Enda <b>STEVENS</b>       | 29 | ■ |
| Eric <b>LICHAJ</b>        | 30 | ■ |
| Chris <b>HERD</b>         | 31 | ■ |
| Nathan <b>BAKER</b>       | 32 | ■ |
| Andy <b>MARSHALL</b> (Gk) | 33 | ■ |
| Daniel <b>JOHNSON</b>     | 35 | ■ |
| Gary <b>GARDNER</b>       | 38 | ■ |



## BOLTON WANDERERS

|   |    |                                |
|---|----|--------------------------------|
| ■ | 01 | Adam <b>BOGDAN</b> (Gk)        |
| ■ | 02 | Gretar Rafn <b>STEINSSON</b>   |
| ■ | 03 | Marcos <b>ALONSO</b>           |
| ■ | 06 | Fabrice <b>MUAMBA</b>          |
| ■ | 07 | Chris <b>EAGLES</b>            |
| ■ | 08 | Stuart <b>HOLDEN</b>           |
| ■ | 09 | Tuncay <b>SANLI</b>            |
| ■ | 10 | Martin <b>PETROV</b>           |
| ■ | 11 | Ricardo <b>GARDNER</b>         |
| ■ | 12 | Zat <b>KNIGHT</b>              |
| ■ | 14 | Kevin <b>DAVIES</b>            |
| ■ | 15 | Tyrone <b>MEARS</b>            |
| ■ | 16 | Mark <b>DAVIES</b>             |
| ■ | 17 | Ivan <b>KLASNIC</b>            |
| ■ | 18 | Samuel <b>RICKETTS</b>         |
| ■ | 19 | Nigel <b>REO-COKER</b>         |
| ■ | 20 | Robbie <b>BLAKE</b>            |
| ■ | 21 | Darren <b>PRATLEY</b>          |
| ■ | 22 | Jussi <b>JAASKELAINEN</b> (Gk) |
| ■ | 24 | David <b>NGOG</b>              |
| ■ | 25 | Dedryck <b>BOYATA</b>          |
| ■ | 26 | Rob <b>LANTON</b> (Gk)         |
| ■ | 27 | Chung-Yong <b>LEE</b>          |
| ■ | 29 | Marvin <b>SORDELL</b>          |
| ■ | 30 | Ryo <b>MIYAICHI</b>            |
| ■ | 31 | David <b>WHEATER</b>           |
| ■ | 32 | Tim <b>REAM</b>                |

### SAFETY & SECURITY

Aston Villa FC welcomes all supporters to Villa Park. For the safety and security of all supporters, please: **KEEP GANGWAYS CLEAR**, **BE AWARE OF THE NEAREST EXIT POINT**. You are also reminded it is a criminal offence to enter the playing area, throw missiles or chant obscene or racial remarks. **SECURITY NOTICE**: In the current security climate, we urge spectators not to leave bags and packages unattended. If you notice any such items, or have any concerns please speak to a steward. Please listen for any security announcements and follow any instructions. **EMERGENCY WARNING**: In the event of emergency, you will hear three warning chimes, followed by announcements over the public address system. Please follow the instructions of stewards and police officers. **REMAIN SEATED**: Villa Park is an all-seater stadium, and spectators are required to remain seated. Any areas where people persistently stand are very likely to be closed next season for safety reasons. This is not an idle threat. Please act responsibly so that the enjoyment of other people and the reputation of Villa Park is not ruined. **RACIAL TOLERANCE**: Aston Villa Football Club does not tolerate racism in any form. Anyone found racially abusing players or others will be prosecuted. **SMOKING REGULATIONS**: Please note that all of Villa Park is non-smoking.

MATCH OFFICIALS: REFEREE C.FOY ASSISTANTS D.BOND & R.WEST FOURTH OFFICIAL C.PAWSON

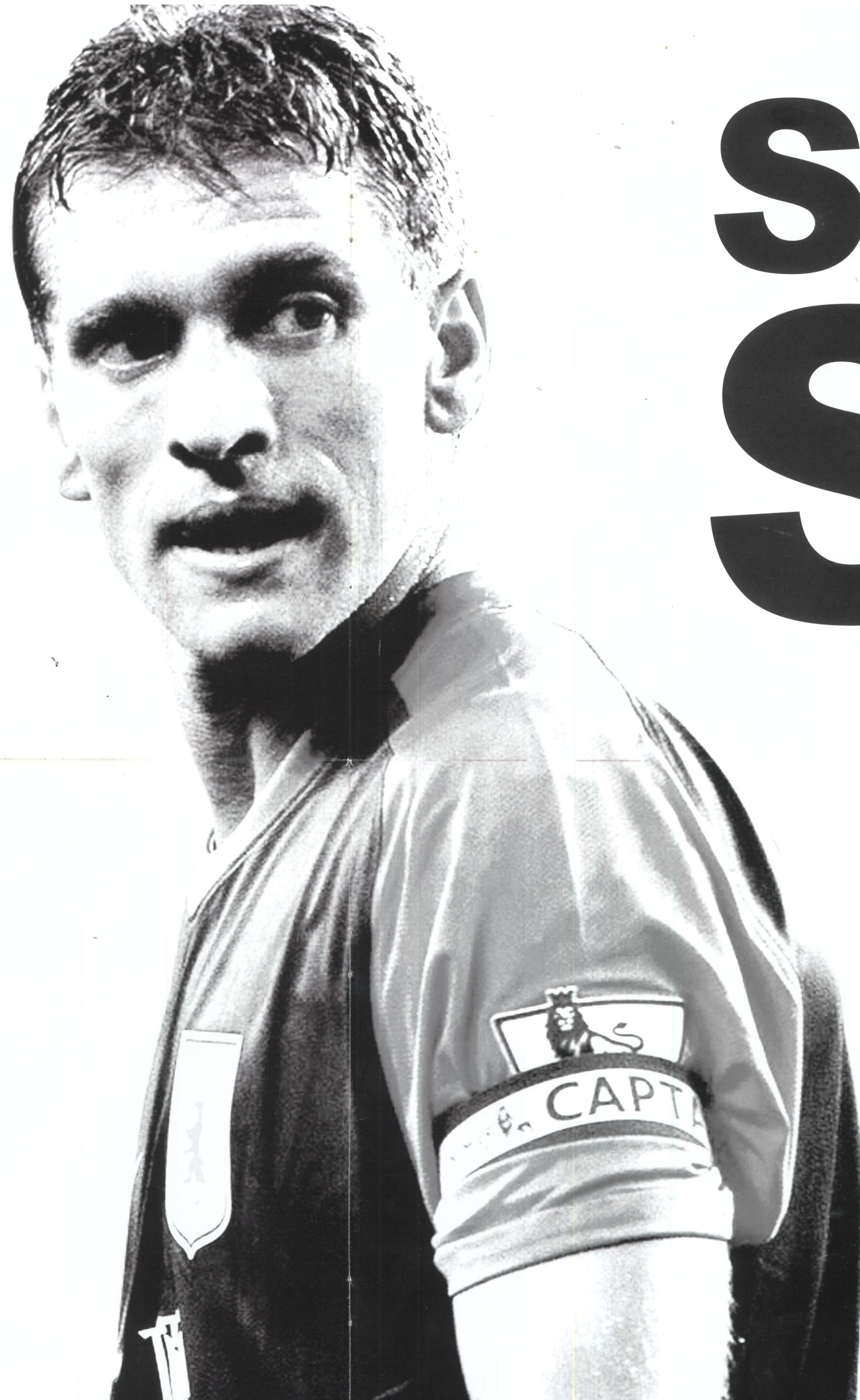


## CHRIS KOPS A CRACKER

Chris Herd celebrates his first Villa goal – against Liverpool – at the Kop end – with team-mate Barry Bannan.







# SUPPORT STAN

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